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Tuesday December 1, 1987
Agrahayana 10, 1909 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXXIII contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, December 1, 1987 / Agrahayana
10, 1999 (Saka).

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven
of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Today Prof. Saheb
is all alone.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : The
General is there but there is no army.

MR. SPEAKER : Where are your
colleagues ?

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Loss of Goods in Transit to Koini FCI Godown

*351. SHRI KALI PRASAD
PANDEY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND
CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of goods transported
to Koini F. C. I. godown during the last
one year through the contractor from
Gopalganj Railway Station, month-wise ;

(b) the total amount paid to the con-
tractor for transporting the goods ;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has
been large scale shortage and loss of goods
in transit and if so, the details of loss of
goods, month-wise ; and

(d) the action taken against officials
responsible for such loss and preventive
measures taken for future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA
DIKSHIT) : (a) to (d) A statement is
given below.

Statement

(a) The quantum of goods transported
to Koini F. C. I. godown during the last
one year through the contractor from
Gopalganj Railway Station, monthwise, as
reported by F. C. I., is given below :-

Month	Quantity Transported
November, 1986 to March, 1987	Nil
April, 1987	884.88 MT.
May, 1987	2106.86 MT.
June, 1987	Nil
July, 1987	Nil
August, 1987	2411.08 MT.
September, 1987	Nil
October, 1987	1100.00 MT.
Total	6502.82 MT.

(b) As reported by F. C. I., the follow-
ing amount has been paid to the contrac-
tor during the last one year :-

Month	Amount paid to the con- tractor
November, 1986 to March, 1987	Nil

April, 1987	Rs. 9485.06
May, 1987	Rs. 22583.83
June, 1987	Nil
July, 1987	Nil
August, 1987 to October, 1987	The contractor has not yet sub- mitted the bills.

Total Rs. 32,068.89	

(c) and (d) Some shortages in transportation have been reported by Food Corporation of India, for which the following action has already been taken by the Corporation :

- (i) The Depot Incharge was suspended and charge-sheeted
- (ii) Three staff members from the Depot have been transferred.
- (iii) CBI Patna has registered a case against the Depot Incharge for the various irregularities reported to have been committed by the Depot Incharge for 1986-87.
- (iv) The FCI and entrusted a firm of Chartered Accountants to investigate the irregularities in the functioning of the Depot. On the basis of the report of the Chartered Accountants, FCI is taking action against the other errant officials.

The matter has also been referred to the CBI for further investigation.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to my question, the hon. Minister has stated that some shortages in transportation have been reported by Food Corporation of India for

which the following action has already been taken by the Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Government admits that there has been some shortage in transportation, then why action is not being taken? This matter pertains to my constituency and has been raised in this House. Mr. Speaker, Sir, investigation against the **contractors has been going on by the Central Bureau of Investigation for the last one year and then a favourite person **was given contract of Koini and Gopalganj. My question was to be admitted for 17th which was deferred for 1st.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kali Prasad you will not make allegation in the House. You should ask question straight

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : I am not mentioning name. My original question is.....

MR. SPEAKER : That will not go on record.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir this matter should be got investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation. This question was to be asked on 17th but Sir, you will be surprised to know that it has been published in the "Hindustan Samachar" of 25th November —

"Blackmarketing of FCI wheat"

It was stated authoritatively on 14th November.....

MR. SPEAKER : Don't read out, put a question.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : I am asking question. It is written there that the police have seized 52 quintals of wheat and action has been taken under the Essential Commodities Act against a trader** (*Interruptions*)

Narrating the incident, the S. P. Thakur Keshav Prasad Singh stated that while coming back from patrolling. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : There is no need to read out the whole thing. This cannot be permitted.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing ? You cannot be allowed to read out the whole thing.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, *Prima facie* the goods

were found short. I would, therefore, like to know whether the licence granted to the present contractor for transportation of goods from Gopalganj and Koini will be cancelled and an enquiry into the whole incident will be got conducted by the CBI or not ?

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the allegations levelled by the hon. Member are sent to us in writing, we will get it investigated. However, the hon. Member knows that CBI inquiry is going on in the matter. If he has some information in addition to this, he can send it to our Ministry and we will get it investigated.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want your protection

MR. SPEAKER : The CBI inquiry is going on.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Get his licence cancelled and get the matter investigated. If my allegations are not found correct, I will resign from the membership of the House. Sir, when the first information report has been registered and the wheat has been seized.....

MR. SPEAKER : Kindly listen to me. You have asked for conducting CBI inquiry into the matter and she has said that CBI inquiry is going on. Whatever is proved in this inquiry, action will be taken accordingly.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Kindly try to understand my point. The CBI inquiry is going on against the former contractor.....

MR. SPEAKER : You want inquiry against the present contractor also.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : The goods seized in Gopalganj.....

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : You may give us in writing whatever you are saying. We will take appropriate action on it, whether by CBI or otherwise.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : There is some bungling in the matter pertaining to excise. You have stated in the reply that you have suspended the Manager of the depot.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR : They have not suspended.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : On the one hand, investigation into the matter is going on and on the other hand, you have suspended the Depot Manager also but what action has been taken against those persons who sold the wheat in black market in which contractors are also involved ?

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Only when we receive the inquiry report of the CBI, we will think of suspending them or taking any other action. How can I reply before we receive the report ? *Prima facie* case was framed against the Depot Incharge but without completing the inquiry, how can I tell what action will be taken against other employees ?

[*English*]

SHRI R. L. BHATIA : It is not a question of loss in transit but it is also connected with losses in the godown itself. I come from Punjab and I know it for a fact that, when the purchase has taken place and goods are placed in the godown, a kilo or two Kilos are removed from a bag by the local officers and then it is stored in the godown. In the godown, after a few months with moisture it gains weight, and when it is sent to some other place, again in transit thefts take place. May I know from the hon. Minister if she is aware of the fact that these thefts take place right in the godown itself and it is a very big racket, and if it is so, what measures are being taken by the Government to deal with this problem ?

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : We are aware that these losses do take place, that bags do get opened, the moisture-content evaporates and therefore, the weight comes down ; and pilferages do take place. I am not saying that the FCI has evolved a totally foolproof system, but wherever complaints are received, they are looked into either by the Manager or the departmental head and if necessary, as in the case of Koni godown, even the CBI inquiry is conducted. Therefore, I cannot give you a total answer saying that, in every case, CBI inquiry alone is conducted. Whatever is required to be done is done, and I can assure you that Bhagat-jii himself is very concerned about it. He has been writing to the State Governments, he has been writing to the FCI in-charges, he has been visiting many godowns. To the best of my knowledge, the pilferages and losses have come down quite considerably.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : This matter does not pertain to Gopalganj only. There has been famine in almost all the States in the country. We are compelled to provide food to the people. Similarly, foodgrains remain lying in the godowns of FCI and stations in Ranchi and other places in Bihar for months together. These have been getting rotten in the rains and are being pilfered. We want that special attention should be paid by the hon. Minister in regard to places where the goods of the FCI are stored. Otherwise, it will be sold in the black market. The Government should pay attention to this matter because there is acute shortage of foodgrains in the country.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : I am grateful to the hon. Member for raising this issue and for expressing his anxiety. If he gives us in writing that against which depots action is needed to be taken, we will give special attention towards them.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Shortage of Naphtha

*353 | **SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :**

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a shortage of Naphtha at present in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether this shortage is to continue in future as well and if so, the estimated shortage by 1990 A.D. and the reasons therefor, and

(c) whether any arrangements are being made by Government to meet the shortage of Naphtha ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) The demand for naphtha is being adequately met in the country, and its projected demand by the year 1990 is also expected to be met in full.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the present price of Naphtha, many petro-chemical industries are being assisted very badly. In this respect may I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government are considering a reduction in the price of Naphtha used as feed stock for petro-chemical industries and, if so, whether rationalisation of the price of Naphtha would give much needed boost to this industry ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : At present, there is no proposal before the Government either to reduce or to increase the price of oil products. If any Particular industry is facing trouble, we will get it examined to see what to do.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK : May I know from the Hon. Minister whether any Committee of Secretaries has been constituted in this connection regarding reducing the price of Naphtha and if so, what is the Report of the Committee in this respect ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, I am not aware of any Committee being set up because at present we are not considering either to increase or to decrease the price of oil products. That is all, I want to say.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : So far as proper use of Naphtha is concerned, there was some proposal for having a

Naphtha unit at Bongaigaon Petro-chemical complex. I would like to know from the Minister what has happened to this proposal and how the Naphtha of Bongaigaon is being used now?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, about Bongaigaon, the details are not available with me. But as far as I remember, we wanted to expand the capacity of Bongaigaon by installing some new machinery. But that has been stalled due to new refinery.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Even that is also stopped.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The Hon. Member is aware of the new refinery. It was supposed to come in the private sector but no private individual came forward. We are considering to set up ourselves because it is required.

Setting up of Caprolactum and Cement Units in Bihar

* 354 SHRI SATYENDRANARAYAN SINHA :
SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether caprolactum and cement units are to be set up in Bihar during the Seventh Plan ;

(b) if so, the location of these units ;

(c) whether these would be adequate to stimulate industrial development of Bihar ; and

(d) if not, what other projects would be located in the State during this Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) :
(a) to (d) A Statement is given below

Statement

(a) to (d) A letter of intent for a capacity of 50,000 tonnes per annum of caprolactum was issued on 5.7.1985 in favour of Bihar State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. Precise indications regarding the completion of the project are not available.

As regards cement, at present, there are six cement plants in Bihar with an installed capacity of 25.50 lakh tonnes per annum and their annual production is around 12 lakh tonnes per annum. Two of these plants with an installed capacity of 8.74 lakh tonnes are lying closed. Further, letters of intent/Registration Certificates have been issued for cement plants for a total capacity of 6,30,000 tonnes per annum.

The implementation of these projects is expected to give a fillip to the industrial development of Bihar. The industrial development of the State would depend on infrastructural support for which the State Governments are primarily responsible.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Sir, the reply to my question is not satisfactory. Part (b) and (d) of my question has not been answered at all. I would like to know from the Minister whether any of these industries is going to be set up in 'no industries district' or not? And why is that the Government of India have not kept us informed about the progress in the setting up of these industries.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO : Sir, in Bihar the following Letter of Intents for registration have been issued for starting the cement plants. The Letter of Intents for Sone Valley Portland Cement and Progressive Cement have been issued and DGTD also granted registration for other cement factories. But nobody is starting industries there. Two cement industries have already been closed. In Bihar the share in public sector investment and the man-power employment are very good. In 1985-86, the total investment in public sector was Rs. 6308 crores which is 11% of the total amount invested in the country.

Similarly 4.54 lakhs of employees are there, which is about 22% of the employment in PSUs in the country.

Some of the public sector undertakings are Bokaro Steel Plant, Hindustan Copper Ltd., Fertilizer Corporation of India, Bharat Wagon and Engineering Ltd., Uranium Corporation of India, etc.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Is that the reply to the question that I put ?

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Have you followed the Minister ? Without following him, you are coming to the conclusion !

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDE : Is it necessary that you have to get a reply as desired by you ?

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : I think the Hon. Minister will be asked to reply to my question specifically.

I asked how many licences have been issued and what employment opportunity has been created, whether major employment has been provided or not, whether the industry has been set up in no-industry district or not. But nothing of the kind has been replied by the Minister. In the Statement that has been given to us the Minister has also admitted that two of the cement plants are lying unused and the installed capacity of six cement plants has been utilised only upto 50%. Still, letters of intent/registration certificates have been issued for another cement plant. What is the good of giving all these kinds of licences when no industry is being set up ?

I asked a specific question whether the Government have taken any steps to ensure that any of these industries are being set up in no-industry district, why is it that no steps has been taken by the Government of India to find out why the caprolactum plant has not been set up and what progress has been made in this regard.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO : The answer for (a) to (d) was that a letter of intent for a capacity of 50,000 tonnes per annum of caprolactum was issued. They are not in a position to start it. Recently

I visited Bihar twice. Bihar Chief Minister came and discussed this with me. Even when a letter of intent was issued in the backward area, they are not in a position to implement it. You know that one industry was shifted to Rajasthan also because they were not in a position to implement it.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : My question was about the location of these units ; whether they are in no-industry districts. But the Hon Minister has not answered this question.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Our policy is to develop backward areas and various types of incentives have been given to the backward areas. They have to take the industries to the backward areas. We are giving all incentives.

SHRI G.G. SWALL : He asked a specific question whether these units have been set up in no-industry districts. Why don't you give a simple reply ?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : In backward areas we have given a letter of intent and licences. It is they who have to themselves establish industries there.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you must have observed that the main question and the reply given by the hon. Minister are contradictory. The reply is vague and disappointing. We want a categorical reply on the one hand, the hon Minister says that there will be a sort of industrial revolution in Bihar when the two projects i.e. of caprolactum and cement are set up there, whereas on the other, he says that nobody is coming forward to set up industries even though the Government have issued letters of intent. I wonder how there will be industrial revolution in Bihar when the projects have not been finalised, nobody is coming forward to set up industries and two cement plants are lying closed. I would also like to know whether the north Bihar whose economy has been shattered because of frequent floods will be strengthened by establishing agro-based industries besides encouraging small and medium industries by

creating a network there so that poverty in the area is removed. Besides, kindly tell us whether the thermal power plants in North Bihar....

MR. SPEAKER : It is alright, this is not the time to deliver a lecture.

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA
But then how can Bihar be industrialised ? Will the thermal power plant be restricted to North Bihar alone and our factories and plants that are there ..

I would like to know...

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing ? Is this the time to make a speech ? This is not the time to deliver a speech.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Reply to what ?

SHRI C.P. THAKUR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, some hon. Members have pointed out just now that because of floods in Bihar, the major industry - Dalmia Industry - has become sick and the employees have been rendered jobless. From the hon. Minister's reply it seems that no industry is going to be set up there. Unless the Central Government takes an aggressive approach in this matter and asks the industrialists to set up industries in Bihar, industrialisation of Bihar cannot place. We have come to learn that the Chairman of the Lead Bank there has advised the industrialists that if they open industries in Bihar, they will not get any return. Therefore, if the Government does not take aggressive steps, no industry will come up in the area. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps have been taken in this regard ?

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, there should be a full discussion on Bihar.

(Interruptions)

{English}

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO : Sir, as I have already said in the year 1984...
(Interruptions) Please hear me.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : Sir, the Minister says 'hear me' but the Members are agitated. Why should we hear him ?

SHRI G.G. SWELL : And even if we hear him we do not understand.

(Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER : Let him answer. If you do not want him to reply I will pass on to the next question.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO : Sir, in the year 1984 we had given 21 letters of intents and 26 industrial licences. In the year 1985 we gave 22 letters of intents and 20 industrial licences. As far as 1986 is concerned 18 letters of intents and 9 industrial licences were given. Upto October, 1987 we have given 11 letters of intents and 8 industrial licences.

AN HON. MEMBER : Tell us how many industries have come up there.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO : Sir, I have visited Bihar twice. Recently I went to Ranchi and there I met the Chief Minister. He told me there is no power generation sufficient for the existing industries. So let them first generate power and then they have the right to ask for industries.

SHRI C.P. THAKUR : Sir, to say that there is no power and there is no industry this is a bad approach. This is no reply to our question.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : Sir, shall I intervene ? A reference has been made to power. If you want I can answer.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing ? How are you behaving ? You put a question I will get the answer.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : You have the right to tell us what we should do and it is our duty to abide. But is it not the duty of the Ministers also to abide ? The question

right at the beginning is about the location and whether these industries have been situated in the no-industry districts. The Minister till now has not come forward with that. He goes on reading all kinds of things which is a bureaucratic reply and we don't understand

MR. SPEAKER : This is something where you have to be very polite.

(Interruptions)

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO : Sir, nobody is interested. There is no power generation...

SHRI G.G. SWAMI : Is that an answer ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing all these things ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You put a question *(Interruptions)* Order, order. Let me tell you one thing. If you think that this thing is inter-related with all the paraphernalia for putting up an industry and if you want, you can have a full discussion. This can be done. How can he deal with it all alone ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I know when the discussion will take place, you will not be present here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESWAR JANTI : It should not be confined to Bihar alone. It should cover other States also, including Assam.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Give me something in writing. We will see how we can get around this thing.

Dumps of Petrol and Kerosene in Hilly Areas

*355. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether his Ministry had envisaged to create dumps of petrol/kerosene oil in hilly and far flung areas; and

(b) the progress made on this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT)

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The oil industry has plans to establish a number of new retail outlets and kerosene dealerships including Taluka Kerosene Depots (TKD) in the hilly and far flung areas. The proposals are at different stages of implementation.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : In response to part (a) of my question "whether his Ministry had envisaged to create dumps of petrol/kerosene oil in hilly and farflung areas", the Hon'ble Minister gave his answer in affirmative. But nothing has happened.

Perhaps six months ago, in response to our demand, the Hon'ble Minister at that time was thinking of creating dumps of gas, kerosene and petrol at some centrally located places so that hilly areas could be provided this facility. In my State, the entire Ladakh region. Tulail, Gurez, Keran, Karnah, Machil in Kashmir and Madh, Dachan, Doodu Basant Garh, Bani, etc., in Jammu are far-flung areas. These and several other places in the hilly areas become inaccessible. Would the Hon'ble Minister come forward with a commitment that he will create dumps at centrally places so that these far-flung areas could be provided this facility ? After all, is it not your responsibility to improve the quality of life in these hilly areas ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I fully realise and understand the difficulties of Ladakh region. In spite of various bottlenecks, practically for about six months in a year, we are making all our attempts to create

pot and stock at a particular level for those months when it cannot be transported whether in Leh or in Kargil.

We are also extending the extension points by key distribution points in such region.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I have also wanted to know the progress. You must have been working. You say that you are creating these outlets and dealerships, etc.

I am not essentially interested in dealership. The question is that there should be a scheme whereby in townships and in central places you can have dumps of kerosene, gas, etc. But the gas should be carried through and should reach far flung areas because jungles are to be saved. You had a scheme and perhaps nothing has happened. The smaller cylinders can be provided to hilly areas so that the villagers can carry those cylinders themselves to their homes. These dumps should be there. Would the hon. Minister say whether he would create these dumps? You have already mentioned kerosene and petrol but you have not mentioned about gas. Gas is very important. If bigger cylinders are provided to cities, what about the smaller cylinders so that the villagers can come to the central place and carry them themselves. These are essential commodities. So, the hon. Minister should give a definite answer.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I fully agree with the hon. Member but my difficulty is that hon. Member has mentioned only petrol and kerosene oil in his question.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : How can I forget gas?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We had one bottling plant in Jammu & Kashmir. Now, we have two more bottling plants in Jammu & Kashmir. Jammu plants has already started and Srinagar plant is likely to be commissioned very soon. About small cylinders, this experiment has been started. We have got 5000 cylinders and as the popularity of the cylinders will increase, there will be more and more in number. But the main difficulty is that we have to stabilise the distribution points and only

then big or small cylinders can be distributed. I have already said that we are having DPK depots and also 117 dealerships in those far flung areas and all attempts will be made to supply these small cylinders, large cylinders whether through distributorship or through extension points in hilly areas and remote areas to save the forests.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now the hon. Minister said that for distribution points in hilly areas certain norms are to be adhered to. Survey is conducted on the basis of these norms and on that basis, it is informed that gas dealership, petrol pump outlet or kerosene outlet cannot be allotted.

[English]

Because of this, you are going to change the basic norms and fundamentals so that functions can be increased and the hilly areas can be benefited widely. 117 dealerships throughout the country is nothing as the hilly areas is much larger than that.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I agree that 117 is nothing but something is better than nothing. We have already laid down norms about the remote areas and the hilly areas; otherwise, this 117 would not have come up. The State Governments should also come forward to co-operate in distribution of kerosene and gas in these areas. Then it will be more efficient.

Expert Committee to Review the Function of Postal Department

*357. **SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether an expert committee to review the functioning of Postal Department has been constituted ;

(b) if so, the composition and terms of reference of the Committee ;

(c) whether the Committee will also consider increasing demands of the States and Union Territories for development of postal services ;

(d) whether suggestions from public will also be invited ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the Government Resolution No. 43-31/87-PE (I) dated 8.9.87 appointing the Committee which contains the terms of reference also is given in the statement below.

(c) The Committee is to study the functioning of the Postal Services in the context of increasing demand from different sectors of society. Inter-alia, the demands of the States and Union Territories for development of Postal Services will be gone into by the Committee.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. For eliciting suggestions from general public, various consumer groups, postal employees and their unions, the Committee is issuing questionnaires. In addition, the Committee would be meeting the representatives of Central and State Governments, representatives of public like the Members of Parliament and the M. L. As. etc., various other institutions including those involved in the development of rural, hilly and backward area, and other similar representative groups to obtain their views on the terms of reference.

Statement

No. 43-31/87-P.E.I. New Delhi,
Dated :- 8-9-87

RESOLUTION

Subject :- Setting up of an Expert Committee to recommend measures to achieve Excellence in Postal Services.

The Government have been considering the need for improving the performance of the Postal Services for some time, in the context of increasing demands on the postal administration since independence due to all-round economic development and increase in population and literacy as also revolutionary changes in communication technology. Recently, the Fourth Central Pay Commission has also recommended the setting up of a Committee in order to review the postal services and personnel management so as to achieve postal excellence and give satisfaction to those employed in the vast infrastructure of the Department. This recommendation has been carefully considered and it has been decided to set up an Expert Committee with the following membership :-

- (1) Sh. S. B. Lal, Retired Secretary (Coordination) Cabinet Secretary Chairman
- (2) Dr. P. C. Joshi, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi Member
- (3) Sh. S. Ramanathan, Director, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi. Member
- (4) Sh. R. Kishore, Retired Member (Personnel) Postal Services Board. Member
- (5) Dr. N. Seshagiri, Additional Secretary, Department of Electronics, New Delhi Member
- (6) Sh. K. C. Sharma, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour, New Delhi. Member
- (7) Sh. K. Diesh, Deputy Director General, Postal Services Board, New Delhi. Member Secretary

2. The terms of reference of the Expert Committee will be as under :-

- (i) To study the functioning of the Postal Services in the context of increasing demand from different sectors of society and identify the operational, managerial and technological strengths and weaknesses of the system.
- (ii) To recommend short term and long term measures to ensure comprehensive planning and efficient and cost-effective operation of the postal network with suitable technological changes with a view to achieving greater public satisfaction
- (iii) To review the finances of the department and pricing policy of the postal services and make suitable recommendations keeping in view the public interest and the available resources.
- (iv) To review and suggest changes necessary in the personnel policy of the department including policies for recruitment, training placement, career progression and vigilance (excluding those relating to pay, allowances and retirement benefits) for improving employees satisfaction and productivity and changing over to more effective and business-like work culture.
- (v) To review the organisational structure, including the headquarters set-up of the Department as also the relationship with other Government Departments and organisations and make suitable recommendations keeping in view the need for public accountability and efficiency of administration.

3 The Expert Committee will submit its report as early as possible but not later than 30th September, 1988.

S/d
(R. C. Gupta)
Secretary
Postal Services Board.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : I thank the hon. Minister for giving a detailed reply. Still I would like to ask him as to why even a single representative of people has not been associated with it ? The people's representatives are well aware of the problems of the people. Will the Government reconstitute the committee ?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the members of the committee are those who are experts in various social, economic and other walks of life including the Government officials and one of the ex-secretary of the Cabinet Committee is the Chairman. This Committee will take views and representations of all sections of people including MLAs, MPs as well as the unions which will cover different cross sections of people. We are not thinking to make any addition in this Committee at the moment

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : It is true that the Committee will submit its report before 1st September, 1988 but will it submit an interim report also ? If so, by when ?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : There is no question of getting the Report from the Committee. The Committee has just started functioning and it will take some time to get the Report. The information which is with the hon. Member is not correct.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : This private courier services are systematically making inroads into the activities of the postal department and are also eating into its revenue. Sir, to the general public this private courier service provides much more efficient and speedy service. So, it is quite natural that more and more people depend on this service. Sir, the so called speedy post is not at all an answer to this problem. So, I would like to know from the

Minister what measures Government intend to take to meet this challenge from the Private Courier Service ?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, according to the Indian Postal Act, the monopoly of the Government is to carry letters. Private Courier Services can only carry the documents. It is a fact that some of these private couriers are abusing the rule. We have taken care of this in the new Postal Bill which is still to be approved by the Government. But apart from that...

AN HON. MEMBER : That is also not efficient.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I fully agree with the hon. Member. The Speed Post Service...

MR. SPEAKER : You beat them with efficiency.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Yes, Sir, we have to improve our postal network and members can put forward their suggestions before this Committee and we shall certainly consider them.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : What is the difference between letter and document. In his answer the Minister has used two words, letter and document. I would like to know what is the difference between the two ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN : Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Minister of communication whether the telegrams from the district towns like Barpeta are being sent over the wire or through the ordinary post ?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I need a specific question for this. I cannot answer like that.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN : But the yare charging it at the telegram's rate.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You give me a separate question and I will answer it.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN : But this is a supplementary question.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : That supplementary cannot arise out of this question.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You can ascertain it by sending a telegram.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Sir the question is whether the telegrams in some parts of the country are sent over the wire or by the ordinary post.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Who has to decide whether a supplementary arises out of this, the Minister or the Speaker ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Private Couriers are circulating printed pamphlets and brochures. They have organised themselves. Has it come to the notice of the Government ? If so, does the Government propose to take effective steps to check it ?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : That is why the Committee has been functioning and after we get the Report, we will take action.

Purchase of Ford Chassis

*358. **SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the people who have purchased Ford Chassis for buses and trucks ;

(b) whether the Bank of India or any other Nationalised Bank has entered into

an agreement with truck manufacturers for marketing these Ford Chassis ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) The Ministry of Industry has received some complaints in the past.

(b) The manufacturers of the Ford Chassis M/s. Simpson & Co. Ltd. have reported that the nationalised Banks do not have any specific agreement with them for marketing their vehicles.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, the hon. Minister has chosen to use the expression 'complaints., I would like to know as to who gave the complaints and what the nature of complaints is. In answer to part (b), the Minister has stated that according to the information furnished by the Company, they do not have any specific agreement with any nationalised bank. I would like to know as to what general kind of agreement of non-specific kind of agreement they have with the nationalised banks for marketing the trucks.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : They have no agreement with the bank. The hon. member referred to complaints. There are two complaints. One is from the Rajasthan Truck Operators' Union who filed a writ petition in the Rajasthan High Court and in September this year we received a notice from the Rajasthan High Court which is addressed to the Secretary to the Union Government in the Ministry of Industry. Now, we cannot say anything on this matter because it is *sub-judice*. The second complaints is from one Mr. P. L. Bali. He filed a criminal petition in a Munsif Court and the Munsif Court directed that the nature of the case is civil and he also filed a civil suit against this Company.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am afraid our hon. Minister is flaunting his command over the English language to

evade the answer. I have asked him to reveal to the House about the nature of the complaints. The Minister has chosen not to disclose the nature of the complaints. The question '*sub-judice*' does not arise because the question relates to facts and not to merits.

Secondly, the complaint was lodged with the Government of India for corrective administrative action. The complaint in the Court of Law does not prevent the Government from initiating corrective measures. I would like to know as to what corrective measure have been initiated by the Government and what the nature of complaint is.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : The first complaint was about the non-availability of spare parts, non-availability of mechaniste, non-availability of servicing facilities and exorbitant prices of spare parts. As far as the Complaint made by Shri Bali is concerned, his truck had met with an accident and he complained that there was some manufacturing defect. The Court has directed that he should file a complaint in the Civil Court.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I thank the hon. Minister for his answer to my first supplementary. I would like to know as to what measures were initiated by the Government. After all, the parties concerned were driven to the Court because the Government chose to sleep over the complaints. What were the measures initiated by the Government ? And what is the stage at which these things rest now ?

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO : This is a commercial transaction. The Rajasthan Truck Operators' Union has moved the courts. It can be said that the matter is pending in the Jaipur High Court. I cannot say anything further.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Kindly repeat your ruling over '*sub-judice*' matters Sir. Then, he will not confuse.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I seek your intervention. I seek your protection. Mr. Speaker Sir, are you satisfied with

the answer? This calls for intervention. This is an excellent case for your intervention.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What are the corrective measures taken?

MR. SPEAKER : You may tell them whether the Government has done something or not.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : The Government cannot take action until and unless the writ petition is disposed of.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : This is a peculiar position.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The only step that he has suggested is going to the Court. That is all.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : They give their complaints to the Government also. The Government is competent to initiate action. The Government is entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring the quality of the products. The Government cannot evade the responsibility.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : The company has passed all the tests road worthy test and quality test. Therefore what can we do? I do not know.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Is it the position of the Government that in respect of

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, Shri Sultanpuri

[Translation]

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that licences are issued for the manufacture of Ford vehicles and the industrialists release advertisement for the marketing of the vehicle and claim it to be a very good vehicle. People in hilly areas have sold off their whole property and took huge loans from the banks in order to purchase trucks. The reply of the Minister does not throw much light on the issue. But is it not a fact that those who have taken loan have not been able to repay it and all the vehicles have

not been found to be road worthy? I would like to know whether Government proposes either to provide compensation to those who took loans or write off such loans?

MR. SPEAKER : This has already been replied to.

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : What the hon. Member has said is really correct. If they give any complaint to me, I will ask the MRTIP to enquire into the unfair trade practices and to punish them.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question. Shri Namgyal.

LPG Requirements of Ladakh and Kargil

* 359. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether a survey team to assess the LPG requirements of Ladakh and Kargil districts was sent to Ladakh during the last summer; and

(b) if so, what were their findings and if not, whether the team is proposed to be sent now to Ladakh and the reasons for not sending the team so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) While no survey team has recently been sent to Leh and Kargil Districts, to assess the LPG requirements of these Districts, information relating to these is already available with the Oil Industry.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : The hon. Minister in his reply, has stated that information relating to LPG in the Ladakh region is already available with the Oil Industry. I would like to know from the Minister what is the total LPG requirement of Leh and Kargil Districts in terms of number of cylinders, as per the information available with him? When was this assessment made? Will it not be proper to have a fresh assessment of the LPG requirement in view of the attaining popularity of LPG in the region?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Normally, the assessment of LPG requirement is made by the new registrations. The total population of Leh is 8700. We have got 1050 customers. It is a welcome sign that 2500 more people want LPG connection. In Kargil, the population is 3500. They have got 100 customers. One hundred customers more want LPG connection. We are going to meet their requirement very shortly.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Thank you. I am not convinced with the statistics which you have. It seems to be not correct. At the present moment, my information is that about 3000 connections have already been allotted including Leh and Kargil districts. There are additional 2500 demands which already stand registered. But the question is, in view of the acute cold climatic conditions, the consumption of LPG is more in that region, particularly in winter. And the next problem is that the road remains closed for a minimum period of six to seven months during winter. According to my estimate, the total requirement is about 70,000 cylinders for the six winter months. So, my request would be, as to whether the Ministry will take steps to have an arrangement for stocking of about 70,000 to 80,000 cylinders for the six winter months so that the regular supply of this gas is ensured?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, I have already submitted in reply to the earlier question that there are two problems. One problem is storing of cylinders in that region and another problem is of moving because the movement is limited to six months. The hon. Member is correct when he says that all the cylinders should be stocked there. We will make the attempts in cooperation with the State Governments to create storage facility and also to ensure the movement of cylinders when there is scarcity. In addition to this, we are trying to have two distribution points in Ladakh and Kargil districts. Some extension points will have to be created in these regions. In that field also, we require the cooperation of the State Government. I had a discussion with the Food and Civil Supplies Minister

of Jammu & Kashmir and we will do something to improve the situation.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : In view of the regulations of forests in the hilly areas, the Government of India took a view that LPG and Kerosene would be given on a priority basis to the hilly areas. Has that priority been withdrawn?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : No, Sir. About kerosene, we allot kerosene to the States. Now the States allot kerosene to various districts and we expect that the States will give priority to the hilly areas. About LPG, we have taken some concrete steps. The main difficulty about LPG is about bottling plants. In Jammu & Kashmir, I have told that two new bottling plants are coming up. In Uttar Pradesh hilly areas, two new bottling plants are coming up, one in Haldwani, for which construction has already been started and another bottling plant constructed and established at Haridwar to cater to the needs of Garwal. In the same way, Himachal is also having another bottling plant at Parvanu, which is shortly to be commissioned. Similarly, we are looking after the other areas in the northern and eastern regions. So, establishing these bottling plants, and location of new distribution points proves that the priority is very much there. We cannot give up that priority.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Mr. Speaker Sir, while answering the supplementary question, the Minister has mentioned the names of the bottling plants to be erected at the foothills of the Himalayas. There are other hilly areas also like Satpura hills in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether such bottling plants are being located there also.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We are not only taking care of Satpura hills, western ghats or eastern ghats, but even other hilly areas also. Our hon. Prime Minister went to Rajasthan and he pointed out that the surrounding areas of small forests of Gujarat and Rajasthan have to be protected. We are taking care of it. This is our priority.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD AYUB KHAN : Mr Speaker, Sir, the hilly area is being discussed. In Rajasthan, Jhunjhunu and Sikar too have hilly areas. The areas of Khetri and Udaipur Vati are hilly areas. I want to know whether the facilities available in hilly areas will also be available to Jhunjhunu and Sikar's Khetri and Udaipur Vati areas?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Our effort is that whatever little area of forest is there in Rajasthan it should remain protected and if Members plant new forests in Jhunjhunu and Sikar, then we will surely take steps to save them by putting up L.P.G. plants.

**Centrally Assisted Industrial Projects
in Andhra Pradesh**

*360. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of centrally assisted industrial projects in Andhra Pradesh, at present;

(b) the proposals to set up such new projects in the State during 1988-89 and 1989-90 and particularly in Telengana Region; and

(c) the time by which such projects are expected to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The emphasis during the Seventh Five Year Plan Period is to maximise the utilisation of the existing facilities through re-structuring, improved productivity, upgradation of technology and modernisation of the existing units rather than setting up of new units. A list of the important on going industrial projects in Central Sector in Andhra Pradesh for which outlays have been provided in the Seventh Five Year Plan is given in the statement below.

The Annual outlay for the different projects for each financial year is determined after reviewing their progress every year. The annual plan proposals of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh as

well as the Central Ministries for the years 1988-89 and 1989-90 have not yet been finalised.

Statement

List of the industrial projects in central sector in Andhra Pradesh included in the 7th Five Year Plan

Sl.No.	Name of Undertakings/Unit/ Scheme
1	Visakhapatnam Steel Project
2	Sponge Iron India Ltd., Kothagudem
3	National Aluminium Co Ltd (NALCO)
4	Hindustan Zinc Ltd. Visakhapatnam (a) Vizag Smelter (b) Silver Recovery (c) Replacement, Renewals, Modernisation etc.
5	Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. Chikaragunta & Yeppamana Mines
6	Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd Visakhapatnam (Propylene Recovery etc.)
7.	Indo Burma Petroleum Co. Ltd. Singurali Unit Expenditure (New Scheme)
8.	Fertilizer Corporation of India (a) Ramagundam Plant-revamping etc. (b) Ramagundam Plant Medium Pressure boiler (c) Ramagundam Plant replacement & renewals Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Hyderabad (a) Expansion. Replacement and Renewals etc.

10. Hindustan Organic Chemicals -
Koyoor

(Jt. Sector Project (Equity contribution))

11. Central Instt. of Plastic Engg. &
Tools

12. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.,
Hyderabad

13. Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Ltd.
Vizag

14. HMT Ltd. Hyderabad

15. Hindustan Cables Ltd

16. Cement Corpn. of India Projects

17. Tyre Corpn. of India Ltd. Kakinada

18. High voltage Direct Current Trans-
mission Project

19. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. Vizag
(Modernisation, Replacement &
Renewals R&D etc.)

20. Computer Maintenance Corpn. of
India. Hyderabad

21. High Voltage Direct Current Pro-
ject

22. Centre for Development of Com-
puter Main frames, Hyderabad

23. Heavy Water Plant, Nannguru

24. Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad

25. Electronics Corpn. of India Ltd.
Hyderabad

26. Security Printing Press Hyderabad

27. Indian Govt. Mint, Hyderabad

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker,
Sir, and hon. Members of the august House,

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right. He has
come to the right track.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker,
Sir, my time will be over. Therefore, I do
not want to say anything else on this.

MR. SPEAKER : You have come to the
track very soon.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker,
Sir, my question was .

(a) the details of centrally assisted in-
dustrial projects in Andhra Pradesh, at pre-
sent.

(b) the proposal to set up such new
projects in the State during 1988-89 and
1989-90 and particularly in Telangana
Region; and

(c) the time by which such projects are
expected to be set up ?

Mr., Speaker, Sir, a short reply has
been given to it.

MR. SPEAKER : Has it not satisfied
you ?

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker,
Sir, the answer given in this is that .

"The annual plan proposals of the State
Government of Andhra Pradesh as well as
the Central Ministries for the years 1988-89
and 1989-90 have not yet been finalised."

I want to tell the hon. Minister that it
is a drought-affected area. My area Meh-
boobnagar and Rayalsema are very back-
ward and drought-affected areas. I want
to know if you are going to formulate some
new project or going to set up a factory in
such areas with the help of Central Govern-
ment ?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : The hon.
Member's question is about Centrally-
assisted projects. There are no Centrally-
assisted projects. There are only three types
of projects in the Central State and the
private sectors. No Centrally-assisted pro-
jects are there. This is about the first

question of the hon. Member. The hon. Member's second question is about the number of projects for 1988-89 and 1989-90. They are under the consideration of the Planning Commission. I know very well that for the existing industries, there is a power cut of 40% in Andhra Pradesh. How can they expect me to start new industries ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Power shortage is a universal phenomenon. Power available with you should be utilised. The hon. Minister of Power is sitting here and he has all the powers.

Mr. Speaker Sir, this is my second supplementary. In the meantime I have read that you want to establish industries in the backward areas. Do you have any such idea ? The Central Government should not stop its subsidy in the drought-affected areas. Are you realising that by not giving the subsidy in such areas which are drought stricken the people are very much suffering ? If you will stop the subsidy, then the industries will come to a stop there. You should at least give it in the drought-affected areas. Will you please tell clearly about this if you are going to do so ?

[*English*]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : For the backward areas, the subsidy will be continued till the end of January 1988. Meanwhile, we are finalizing the Baijal Committee report, to establish growth centres in various States. Then we will create the infrastructure, with all the facilities. Then, you will not get all the subsidies. But you will get the facilities.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Development of Hollow Type Insulators by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

*352. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN :
SHRI P. M. SAYBED :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited has successfully developed hollow type insulators for 400 KV, the highest system voltage in the country, which were being imported so far ;

(b) whether the quality and performance efficiency of the insulators developed by the BHEL is upto international standards ;

(c) whether the BHEL will be in a position to meet the entire demand of such insulators ; and

(d) the expected savings of foreign exchange as a result of manufacture of those insulators ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Proto-type has been tested.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Initially the annual saving in foreign exchange would be about Rs. 35 lakh, which would progressively increase to Rs. 200 lakh in the near future.

Expenditure for Non-Conventional Energy Development

*356. CH. RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred on non-conventional energy development so far during the Seventh Plan ;

(b) the remaining amount in the allocation for the Seventh Plan for this purpose ; and

(c) what tangible benefits to common people have accrued with so much expenditure incurred for the non-conventional energy sources ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) An expenditure of Rs. 242.83 crores is reported to have been incurred against an allocation of Rs. 244.35 crores in the Central sector

during the first 2 years of the 7th Plan i.e. 1985-86 and 1986-87 on the programmes of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. An allocation of Rs. 100 crores has been made for these programmes in the Central sector for the year 1987-88. A total allocation of Rs. 412.35 crores had been made for the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for the 7th Plan.

As per information received, an expenditure of Rs. 33.78 crores has been incurred against an allocation of Rs. 31.28 crores in the State sector during the first two years of the 7th Plan i.e. 1985-86 and 1986-87 on the programmes of non-conventional energy sources. An allocation of Rs. 22.34 crores has been made for these programmes in the State sector for the year 1987-88. A total provision of Rs. 107.20 crores has been made for the non-conventional energy sources in the State sector during the 7th Plan.

An expenditure of Rs. 0.77 crores has been reported for the development of non-conventional energy sources for the North Eastern Council during the first two years of the 7th Plan i.e. 1985-86 and 1986-87. An allocation of Rs. 0.65 crores has been made for the North Eastern Council for this purpose during the year 1987-88. A total provision of Rs. 2 crores has been made for the development of non-conventional energy programmes including integrated rural energy programmes etc. for the North Eastern Council for the 7th Plan.

Keeping in view the expenditure already incurred in the first two years for these programmes in Central sector, State sector and the North Eastern Council and taking into consideration that the allocations made during 1987-88 would be fully utilised during the year by them, there is likely to be a balance of Rs. 69.52 crores in the Central sector, Rs. 51.08 crores in the State sector and Rs. 0.58 crores for the North Eastern Council for the last two years of the 7th Five Year Plan.

(c) In relatively a short period of about years since the extension programmes in the area of non-conventional energy sources were taken up, over 30 lakh house-holders have been benefitted by the

installation of improved chulhas, thereby saving valuable fuelwood, reducing women's drudgery, improving their health by the smokeless chulhas and also contributing towards improvement of the environment. These chulhas have made homes in over 10,000 villages smokeless and there has been a significant saving of fuelwood. In addition, more than 8.7 lakhs family size biogas plants have been installed so far. They have also helped the householders to save fuelwood and the generation of significant quantity of organic manure of much beneficial value. Installation of solar thermal systems covering over 70,000 square metres has helped providing heat energy requirements both in the industrial and domestic sector. Over 90,000 Solar Cookers have been sold. Solar Photovoltaic street lighting units have been provided to 1400 villages in addition 200 community lighting and T.V. Systems have been installed. Under the Wind Energy programme, more than 1800 Wind Pumps have been installed. Installation of 5 Wind farms in four different states of the capacity of 1.63 MW has helped to feed over 8 million units of electricity to their respective.

As most of these programmes are primarily for the rural population, majority of whom are commoners and poor men, it would be seen that the common man has already received tangible benefits from these programmes.

Benami Liaison Companies having dealings with ONGC.

***361. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
DR. A.K. PATEL :**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports to the effect that family members or close relations of the ONGC officials are running "benami" liaison companies or are working with companies having dealings with the ONGC to the detriment of the interests of the ONGC ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a) and (b) Government has seen a news item to this effect that appeared in the Hindustan Times dated October 18, 1987.

The insinuations made in the news item are rather general and vague ; and as such, do not warrant any action. However, ONGC's rules and procedures are devised to prevent mal-practices.

Schemes for Rationalisation of Work Force in Public Sector Enterprises

*362. **SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether public sector enterprises have been asked to prepare schemes for rationalisation of their work force ;

(b) is so, what is the response from the units ; and

(c) when the schemes will be made public for a healthy debate ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Rationalisation of work force in Public Sector Undertakings is a Management function of the concerned Public Sector Undertakings. No specific instructions were issued in this regard to Public Sector Undertakings.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SC/ST Officials in Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.

*363. **DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe officials in the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited as on 31 March 1987;

(b) whether the reserved percentage has been filled in the N.L.C.; and

(c) the number of employees in the officers grade belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The total number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe officials comprising executives and non-executives in the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited as on 31 March, 1987 was 2523 and not 87 respectively.

(b) It has not been possible to fill the reserved percentage due to non-availability of qualified Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates. The unfilled vacancies are being carried forward.

(c) The total number of employees in the officers grade belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited as on 31.3.1987 was 212 and 6 respectively.

Provision of Post Offices in Gram Panchayat Villages

*364. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Gram Panchayat villages in the country do not have a single Post Office;

(b) if so, the number of Gram Panchayat villages in Himachal Pradesh;

(c) whether any priority would be given to the opening of Post Offices in such Gram Panchayat villages in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) the likely date by which all such Gram Panchayat villages would be provided with atleast one Post Office in each one of them ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) According to the information obtained from the Heads of Postal Circles, as on 31.3.87, there were 74,687 gram Panchayats which did not have post offices but were served by post offices established in neighbouring gram panchayats.

(b) The number of gram panchayats in Himachal Pradesh is reported to be 2531. This information is, however subject to re-verification with the State Government authorities.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It would not be possible to provide a post office for each and every gram panchayat, as there are other criteria also such as a minimum level of population and of revenue to be fulfilled. The policy is that a group of villages constituting a gram Panchayat will be provided with a post office provided that (i) the combined population is not less than 3000 (1500 in hilly; backward and tribal areas) and (ii) the expected revenue is not less than 33 1/3% of the cost (15% in hilly, backward and tribal areas). It is further provided that the condition of a minimum distance of 3 kms. from the nearest post office will be relaxable in hill areas.

Subject to availability of resources and clearance from the Ministry of Finance in regard to creation of the required number of posts, the eligible gram panchayats are to be provided with post offices in a phased manner.

Issue of Ration Cards by States

*365. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have directed all the States to issue ration cards to all families;

(b) how many cards have been issued so far upto October, 1987 by various States;

(c) the norms which are being followed for issue of ration cards; and

(d) how many families are left without ration cards in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (d) The res-

ponsibility of issuing ration cards to the people rests with the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration. In this regard, guidelines have been issued by the Central Government to all the States/Union Territories for strengthening the public distribution system from time to time. State Governments/UT Administration have again been advised that as a part of the Minimum Needs Programme, rations cards be issued to each family both in rural and urban areas. Issuance of ration cards is a continuous process. Generally, ration cards are issued to the bonafide residents of a particular area/State by the concerned authorities after due verification. By and large, States/Union Territories have covered their entire population under the public distribution system.

Mangalore Refinery Project

*366. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA
WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 33 on 24th February, 1987 regarding Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Refinery Project at Mangalore and state :

(a) Whether the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited have since prepared a detailed project report for setting up the petrochemical refinery at Mangalore and submitted it to Government for approval.

(b) if so, when and the details envisaged in the project report;

(c) the steps taken by Government to execute the project; and

(d) when the refinery is likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT)

(a) The detailed Project Report is to be submitted to the Government within twelve months from the formation of a

Joint Venture Company. This company is expected to be registered in December, 1987.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The refinery is likely to be commissioned within four years from the date of Government's approval of the Detailed Project Report

Recommendations of Kelkar Committee

*367. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the principles or criteria on which the new Drug Price Control, Order, 1987 is based ;

(b) whether all the recommendation made by the Kelkar Committee regarding categorisation of drugs have been incorporated in the new DPCO ;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the recommendations which have not been accepted with reasons therefor ;

(d) whether the mark up on a number of essential medicines has been increased ; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ;

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 is based on (i) the measures announced by the Government in December, 1986 for rationalisation, quality control and growth of drugs and pharmaceutical industry in India,

(ii) the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee in regard to Category II drugs and (iii) the recommendations of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in regard to Category I drugs.

(b) and (c) The recommendations of the Kelkar Committee regarding Category II drugs were accepted by the Government after deleting those identified for Category I by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. These were incorporated in the Second Scheduled to the Drugs (Prices

Control) Order, 1987, copies of which were laid on the table of the House on the 27th August, 1987.

(d) and (e) The MAPE allowed in respect of drugs included in the First Schedule to DPCO, 1987 is 75% and that allowed in respect of drugs included in the Second Schedule is 100%. This is based on the measures announced by Government in December, 1986 for rationalisation, quality control and growth of drugs and pharmaceutical industry in India.

Amount Collected from Drug Companies under Drug Prices Equalisation Account

*368. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state .

(a) the amount collected from drug companies due to overcharging from consumers under Drug Prices Equalisation Account during 1986 and up to 30 September, 1987 ; and

(b) the total amount due and the time by which the same will be collected ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) The details of amount collected during 1986 and upto 30th September, 1987 are given below :

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| (1) M/s. Fulford (India) Ltd. | Rs. 50 lakhs |
| (2) M/s. Cyanamid (India) Ltd. | Rs. 20 lakhs |
| (3) M/s. Hoechst (India) Ltd. | Rs. 2 crores |

(b) To the extant information was made available by the companies, the following are the approximate amounts assessed by the special team to be recovered from the companies for the period ending 31.12-1983 :

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) M/s. Hoechst (India) Ltd. | Rs. 5,64,12,473 |
| (2) M/s. Cyanamid (India) Ltd. | Rs. 4,92,00,24 |

(3) M/s. John Wyeth Ltd. Rs. 1,66,87,232

(4) M/s. Pfizer Ltd. Rs. 99,07,731

(5) M/s. Geoffray Manners Ltd. Rs. 29,85,261

(6) M/s. Ethnor Ltd. Rs. 10,18,541

Process to recover the amounts has already been initiated.

Indo-Dutch Pact on Telecommunications

* 369. DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Indo-Dutch pact on telecommunications has been signed recently; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir, In pursuance of the Agreement on Economic and Technical Co-operation signed between the Government of India and the Kingdom of Netherlands at New Delhi on 8th February, 1983, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 19th September, 1987 at New Delhi between the Department of Telecommunications, Government of India and the Ministry of Transport and Public Works of the Kingdom of Netherlands for co-operation in the field of telecommunications.

(b) The Memorandum of Understanding covers technical co-operation for mutual benefit in the field of telecommunications and sharing of experience in the use and development of new techniques for telecommunications. The Co-operation could include exchange of technical and operational staff, provision of fellowships and scholarships, transfer of technology etc.

[Translation]

Linking of Jagdalpur with Microwave Network

* 370. SHRI MANKURAM SODI
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the existing position in respect of the work undertaken to link Jagdalpur, the district headquarters of Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh, with microwave network ;

(b) whether construction work will be completed within the stipulated time and if not; the reasons for delay in the matter; and

(c) the action taken to complete the work within the stipulated time ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) :

(a) An 8 hop 7 GHZ 34 Mops Digital Microwave System is in advanced stage of execution between Raipur-Dhamtar - Jagdalpur.

(b) Construction work will be completed by March, 1988 as scheduled.

(c) Does not arise.

Revamping of Oil India Ltd.

* 371. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government plan to totally revamp the Oil India Ltd. which is the major producer in the eastern region;

(b) if so, what are the main plans to revamp the Oil India Ltd.; and

(c) when final decision for revamping is likely to be taken and to what extent the revamping of Oil India Ltd. will help ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT)**

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Optical Fibre Project of Hindustan
Cables Ltd.**

3555. SHRI MANIK SANYAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the manufacturing of co-axial cables at Hindustan Cable's Rupnarayanpur unit in West Bengal has already been stopped;

(b) if so, when,

(c) whether it is also a fact that the replacement of co-axial cable is the Optical Fibre,

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Optical Fibre Project is going to be set up at Allahabad instead of Rupnarayanpur in West Bengal where infrastructural facilities and experience are easily available; and

(f) the details of reasons for shifting the project from West Bengal to Uttar Pradesh ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :**

(a) and (b) Of the two varieties of Coaxial Cables viz. large tube and small tube, the production of large tube Coaxial Cables was stopped with effect from 1st April, 1987.

(c) and (d) Coaxial Cables are used for long distance transmission intra whereas Optical Fibre Cables are used both for long distance transmission and city connections.

(e) It has been finally decided to locate the proposed Optical Fibre Project of Hindustan Cables Ltd, at Naini, District Allahabad (U.P.).

(f) Does not arise.

Revival of Rohtas Industries Ltd., Bihar

**3556. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN
PROF. CHANDRA BHANU
DEVI :**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the directive given by the Supreme Court to Union Government for the revival of the Rohtas Industries Ltd. in Bihar on 29 October, 1987;

(b) the action taken thereon; and

(c) the results achieved ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):**

(a) to (c) The Supreme Court directed the Central Government vide their Order dated 28-10-1987 to refer the case of M/s. Rohtas Industries Ltd. to the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction within a week from the date of the Order. The Supreme Court also directed the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction to frame a scheme for the revival and rehabilitation of M/s. Rohtas Industries Ltd. by the 7th March, 1988 for their consideration. The Orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court have been brought to the notice of the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction.

Japanese Assistance for Edible Oils Import

**3557. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN :** Will the Minister of FOOD
AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to
state :

(a) the quantum of assistance extended by the Japanese Government to India for the import of edible oils and the terms under which the funds were extended; and

(b) the details of utilisation of the funds ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) The Japanese Government have indicated that they will be willing to extend a loan of yen 29.5 billion (about Rs. 270 crores) with a view to assisting India in its drought relief and economic reconstruction. The loan will be made available to cover payments for the import of such commodities as may be agreed to between the two countries. The loan agreement is yet to be negotiated and signed. This commodity loan will be repayable over a period of 18 years after the grace period of 7 years and carry an interest rate of 2.75% per annum.

Pact with USA for Technology Transfer

3558. **SHRIMATI BASAVARAJI-SWARI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indo-US Industrial Cooperation, the Confederation of Engineering Industry and the US Chamber of Commerce have agreed to set up a joint task force to work out the modalities for promoting technology transfer between the two countries;

(b) if so, whether any delegation visited US;

(c) if so, what was the outcome of the visit; and

(d) whether any official agreement in this regard has been reached ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) A delegation of Confederation of Engineering Industry visited U.S.A. from 13th to 25th September, 1987, where they had fruitful discussions with the US Chamber of Commerce. Both of them agreed to set up a joint task force for promoting cooperation and transfer of technology to the mutual benefit of both the countries. No agreement, as such, has been signed between the CEI and US Chamber of Commerce.

Production, Import, Export and Stock of Edible Oils

3559. **SHRI R.P. DAS :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of edible oils produced in the country, imported, exported and the net quantity available for consumption up-to-date, item-wise;

(b) whether the edible oil situation is satisfactory; and

(c) if not, what are the causes of the present crisis in edible oil situation ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) In the last three oil year 1984-85 to 1986-87, the estimated production of edible oils was 103 lakh tonnes and imports were 40.44 lakh tonnes (Prov.). These quantities were available for consumption.

(b) The gap between the demand for and supply of edible oil in the country continues.

(c) The main reasons for the shortfall are (i) lower production of oilseeds during the last two years and (ii) way-ward behavior of monsoon,

Linking of Foreign Countries with India by STD.

3562. **SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names and number of foreign countries which have been linked by subscriber trunk dialling system with India; and

(b) the names of countries which are to be linked during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) 150 foreign countries have been linked by Sub-

scriber Trunk Dialling System with India and the list of such countries is indicated in statement-I below

planned to be linked on Subscriber Trunk Dialling system during the current year and the list of such countries is indicated in statement-II below

(b) 19 additional foreign countries are

Statement-I

ANNEXURE-A

List of Foreign countries available on ISD with India as on 20-11-1987.

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Alaska | 35. Cyprus |
| 2. Albania | 36. Czechoslovakia |
| 3. Algeria | 37. Denmark |
| 4. Anguilla | 38. Djibouti |
| 5. Antigua | 39. Dominican Island |
| 6. Argentina | 40. Dominican Republic |
| 7. Aruba | 41. Egypt |
| 8. Ascension Island | 42. Ethiopia |
| 9. Australia | 43. Fiji |
| 10. Austria | 44. Finland |
| 11. Azores Madeira | 45. France |
| 12. Bahamas | 46. Gabon |
| 13. Bahrain | 47. Gambia |
| 14. Bangladesh | 48. Germany East GDR |
| 15. Barbados | 49. Germany West FRG |
| 16. Belgium | 50. Ghana |
| 17. Belize | 51. Gibralt-Tar |
| 18. Benin | 52. Greece |
| 19. Bermuda | 53. Grenada |
| 20. Bolivia | 54. Guadeloupe |
| 21. Botswana | 55. Guam |
| 22. Brazil | 56. Guatemala |
| 23. Brunei | 57. Guyana |
| 24. Bulgaria | 58. Hawaii |
| 25. Burkina Faso | 59. Honduras |
| 26. Cameroon | 60. Hongkong |
| 27. Canada | 61. Hungary |
| 28. Cayman Islands | 62. Iceland |
| 29. Central African Rep | 63. Indonesia |
| 30. Chile | 64. Ireland |
| 31. Christmas Islands | 65. Italy |
| 32. Colombia | 66. Ivory Coast |
| 33. Costa Rica | 67. Jamaica |
| 34. Cuba | 68. Japan |

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 69. Jordan | 113. Seychelles |
| 70. Kenya | 114. Sierraleone |
| 71. Kuwait | 115. Singapore |
| 72. Lebanon | 116. Solomon Islands |
| 73. Lesotho | 117. South Korea |
| 74. Liberia | 118. Spain |
| 75. Libya | 119. Sri Lanka |
| 76. Luxembourg | 120. St. Christopher |
| 77. Macao | 121. St. Lucia |
| 78. Malagasy | 122. St. Vincent |
| 79. Malawi | 123. Sudan |
| 80. Malaysia | 124. Swaziland |
| 81. Maldives | 125. Sweden |
| 82. Mali | 126. Switzerland |
| 83. Malta | 127. Syria |
| 84. Marshall Island | 128. Taiwan |
| 85. Martinique | 129. Tanzania |
| 86. Mexico | 130. Thailand |
| 87. Micronesia | 131. Togolese Republic |
| 88. Montserrat | 132. Tonga |
| 89. Morocco | 133. Trinidad & Tobago |
| 90. Nauru | 134. Tunisia |
| 91. Nepal | 135. Turkey |
| 92. Netherlands | 136. U.A.S. |
| 93. Netherlands Antilles | 137. U.S.S.R. |
| 94. New Zealand | 138. Uganda |
| 95. Niger | 139. United Kingdom |
| 96. Nigeria | 140. United States |
| 97. Norway | 141. Uruguay |
| 98. Oman | 142. Vanuatu (New Hebrides) |
| 99. Pakistan | 143. Vatican City |
| 100. Palau | 144. Venezuela |
| 101. Panama | 145. Virgin IS (British) |
| 102. Papua New Guinea | 146. Yemen Arab Republic |
| 103. Paraguay | 147. Yugoslavia |
| 104. Philippines | 148. Zaire |
| 105. Poland | 149. Zambia |
| 106. Portugal | 150. Zimbabwe |
| 107. Puerto Rico | |
| 108. Qatar | |
| 109. Romania | |
| 110. Samoa Est. | |
| 111. Saudi Arabia | |
| 112. Senegal | |

Statement II

List of foreign countries planned to be connected on ISD with India during 1987-88

1. Burundi

2. Ecuador
3. Iran (Iran)
4. Mozambique
5. Morfolk Island
6. Semoa (America)
7. Mauritius
8. Cong People Resp.
9. Falkland Islands
10. Iraq
11. Namibia
12. Peru
13. Somalia Dem. Rep.
14. Chad Rep.
15. Haiti
16. Lao (People Dem. Rep.)
17. Nicaragua
18. Randa
19. Surinam

Production of Goods reserved for Small Scale Sector

3563. **SHRI H. B. PATIL :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no legal restraint on the production of goods reserved for small scale sector and that big industrialists are producing these goods disregarding the directives issued by Government ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to enact any law or amend the existing law to overcome this problem ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to enact any law or amend the existing law to overcome this problem ; and

(c) if so, when and what measures are proposed to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Provision for reservation of specified articles for exclusive production by ancillary or small scale industrial undertakings is made in Section 5 of the Indus-

tries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 1984. Provision has also been made in this Section for the requirement of obtaining COB licences by existing industrial undertakings manufacturing the reserved items. Their capacity is pegged to the level existing on the date of reservation of the item for SSI Sector. Violation of these provisions is made punishable under Section 24 of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. vide Section 4 of the Amending Act of 1984. In case large industrial undertakings wish to take up manufacture of items reserved for SSI Sector, their applications can be considered only if they undertake an export obligation of minimum of 75% of new or additional production to be achieved within a maximum period of 3 years.

Linear Alkyl Benzene Plant at Hazira

3564. **SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question No. 4650 on 25th August, 1987 regarding allotment of land to private unit at Hazira in Gujarat and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a private units has established plants for manufacturing PTA and Linear Alkyl Benzene at Hazira on Government land ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether the concerned party had obtained the necessary permission or licence to establish the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No private unit has established any plant for the manufacture of PTA or LAB at Hazira.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Introduction of Submarine-Cable for Connecting Islands with other Parts of the Country

3565. **SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are introducing new submarine cable for connecting our islands with other parts of the country, and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Work by ONGC on Pipeline from Upper Assam to HPC in Nagaland

3566. DR. B. L. SHAILASH Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether the oil and Natural Gas Commission has suspended work on the 30 Km long pipeline for transportation of natural gas from Galeki fields in Upper Assam to the Hindustan Paper Corporation (HPC) plant in Tuli (Nagaland) ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to ensure the completion of work as per schedule ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The pipeline is expected to be completed by April 88' as per the scheduled time

Setting up of Computer Data Base for Fault Correction of Electronic Parts in Telecommunication Network

3567. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a Computer data base for

fault correction of electronic parts in use in the telecommunication network ;

(b) if so, when it will be implemented and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of this proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The system for component reliability analysis, and measurement (SCRAM) is computer data base system and is in operation since Feb., 87 at CACT (Component Approval Centre for Telecommunications) at Bangalore. The SCRAM collects and analyses the data on failed components received from repair centres

(c) Does not arise.

French Aid for Hydro-Electric Power Units

3568. SHRI R. M. BHOYE . Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether aid from French Government has been sought for a number of projects including a hydro-electric power unit for manufacturing electronic switching systems ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (b) France has offered financial packages totalling 3.8 billion Francs for the Dulhasti hydroelectric project in Jammu & Kashmir and the telecommunications factory at Bangalore. These offers are in addition to the general protocol credits provided by France for financing other mutually agreed projects.

Manufacture of Reflective Acrylic Products

3569. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the countries that are manufacturing reflective acrylic products used as accessories in harnessing solar energy ;

(b) whether Government have initiated steps to encourage manufacture of reflective acrylic products in India ; and

(c) if so, the policy and steps taken by Government regarding the manufacture of reflective acrylic in India ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) Reflective acrylic products are being used in a limited way as accessories in harnessing solar energy in some countries though more developmental work and field studies are necessary before their widespread use. Research and development work in this area has been initiated in India and if found suitable manufacture of the same would be encouraged.

S. T. D. Facility in Tripura

3570. **SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the names of towns/cities in Tripura which are already connected with STD facility and those likely to be linked with STD facility during 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : Agartala in Tripura is already provided with STD facility. Kailashabar and R. K. Pur are likely to be linked with STD during 1987-88.

Postal Structure of Goa State

3571. **SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the postal structure of the newly created State of Goa is proposed to be elevated ;

(b) if so, the present set-up ;

(c) to what status the postal department in Goa is going to be upgraded ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d) Presently, the Goa Postal Division is under the Administrative control of the PMG, Maharashtra circle and is being headed by a Sr. Supdt. of Post Offices in the Sr. Time Scale of IPS Group 'A'. Consequent upon the formation of a new State of Goa, requests have been received to upgrade the status of Postal setup in the State of Goa. The matter is still under consideration.

Hiring of Machines by Eastern Coalfields Ltd

3572. **SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK** : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Eastern Coalfields Ltd. had hired nine machines during 1977-78 to 1985-86 ;

(a) if so, from whom and on what terms and conditions ;

(c) the purposes for hiring and the cost benefit ratio ;

(d) whether the hiring was according to the rules ; and

(e) whether it was approved by the Board of Directors of ECL and Coal India Ltd. ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Twenty one sets of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery with supporting equipment were hired by Eastern Coalfields Limited during the period 1977-78 to 1985-86 from the following :

1. M/s. G. S. Atwal & Company (Gua).
2. M/s. Mercantile Construction Company.
3. M/s. Sterling Construction Company.

4. M/s. Arvind Construction Company Pvt. Ltd.
5. M/s. Ravi Udyog.
6. M/s. Guru Meher Construction Company.
7. M/s. Eastern Minerals & Trading Agency.
8. M/s. Khalsa Brothers.
9. M/s. G.S. Atwal & Company (Engg.) Pvt. Ltd.
10. M/s. R. N. Bhalotia.
11. M/s. Guru Meher Construction Company Pvt. Ltd.
12. M/s. Oriental.

The main terms and conditions covered aspects like compliance with safety rules and regulations, non-employment of manual labour except for operation, maintenance and repairing of machines/equipment and payment related to measurement of work done.

(c) The machines/equipment were hired for working small patch deposits by open-sea methods. In working such deposits, development of hired machinery/equipment has been found to be more economical than the departmental equipment under similar conditions.

(d) and (e) The hiring of machinery/equipment was done by the Board of Directors of Eastern Coalfields Limited or by competent authority to whom powers had been delegated. Coal India Limited laid down guidelines for hiring of machinery/equipment in 1981.

Shortage of Drugs

3573. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMED : Will the MINISTER of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news captioned "Government to ensure availability of drugs" appearing in Indian Express of 24 September, 1987 ;

(b) if so, the names of the drugs being produced in the country where shortages were reported ; and

(c) the reasons for shortage of those drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) To the extent information is available among drugs which were frequently reported be under shortage, because of unremunerative prices fixed under D.P.C.O. 1979 are as below :

Oral Polio Vaccine

ATS

Anti Snake Venom Serum

Streptomycin

Oxytocin

Pilocar

Dapsone

Diethyl Carbamazine Citrate

Pheneobarbitone, etc.

Unilever Group of Companies

3574. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of companies comprising the Unilever Group ;

(b) what is the total turnover of all these companies ;

(c) what is the inter se interconnection of all these companies ;

(d) what kind of Government control is exercisable under the MRTP Act or the Companies Act or any other law ; and

(e) the steps contemplated by Government to restrict Unilever from spreading its tentacles too far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The names of undertakings registered under the MRTP Act and belonging to Hindustan Lever House are given below :

1. Hindustan Lever Ltd
2. Brindavan Properties Ltd
3. Heath & Co (Calcutta) Ltd
4. Indexport Ltd.
5. Lipton India Ltd
6. Sharpedge Ltd.

The total turnover of the above undertakings in 1986 was Rs. 1155.74 crores

The undertakings of Lipton India Ltd. and Brooke Bond India Ltd. are interconnected since 1.9.1987 through interlocking of directors in terms of section 2 (g) of the MRTP Act. As such the undertakings registered under the MRTP Act and belonging to Brooke Bond House as listed below also become interconnected with the Hindustan Lever House.

1. Brooke Bond India Ltd
2. Bon Ltd.
3. Devershola Tea Co. Ltd.
4. Doolia Tea Co. Ltd.
5. Doom Dooma India Ltd
6. Tea Estates India Ltd
7. Thiashola Tea Co. Ltd

The total turnover of the above undertakings in 1986 was Rs. 445.24 crores.

(c) The undertakings listed under the Hindustan Lever House are admittedly

interconnected. The undertakings listed under the Brooke Bond House are also admittedly interconnected.

(d) The Companies Act, the MRTP Act and the Industries (D&R) Act provide for, inter-alia, regulatory control as per the provisions of these enactments.

(e) The foreign investments in India are regulated under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

[Translation]

Share to Workers in the assets of Khadi Institutions

3575. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the Khadi institutions certified by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, which are running on no-profit no-loss basis, have amassed assets worth lakhs of rupees, and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give share to the workers of these Khadi institutions in such assets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The Khadi institutions certified by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission receive financial assistance in the form of loans and grants as per the approved pattern through the State KVI Boards. Some of the Khadi institutions which are registered with the KVIC received assistance directly from the Commission. The assistance to these institutions is for providing infrastructural facilities for supply of raw materials, processing of Khadi cloth into finished products, supply of tools & equipments, godowns for storage of raw materials and finished products, setting up of distribution outlets for marketing of khadi. These facilities are provided so as to enable the artisans to work freely wherever they want and earn a livelihood. The activities are regulated through certification rules and

audit and sale price and margins are also strictly within the rules and approved pattern. Therefore, there is no possibility of owning assets for purposes other than to provide services to the artisans and khadi producing institutions

Generation of Solar Energy

3576. **SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR**
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the expenditure likely to be incurred on generation of solar energy during the next Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : The next Five Year Plan (Fifth Plan) has not yet been taken up.

[English]

Telephone Facility in Malappiram, Calicut and Cannanore Districts in Kerala

3577. **SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA :**
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the district wise break-up of the number of inhabited hexagons in Kerala provided with telephone facility,

(b) whether Government would consider providing more telephone facility especially in Malappuram, Calicut and Cannanore districts, and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The information is given in the Statement below.

(b) All the inhabited hexagons of Malappuram, Calicut and Cannanore districts are already covered with telephone facility

(c) Yes, see above in view of (b) above.

Statement

District-wise break-up of inhabited hexagons provided with telephone facility in Kerala State

Sl. No	Name of the District	No. of hexagons with Telephone facility
1.	Trivandrum	36
2.	Quillon	36
3.	Bachhanamdhitta	29
4.	Allappy	30
5.	Kottayam	41
6.	Idukki	27
7.	Ernakulam	39
8.	Trichur	51
9.	Palghat	62

10. Malapuram	52
11. Calicut	37
12. Wyanad	22
13. Cannanore	44
14. Kasaracode	33

530

Availability of Power in Southern States

3578. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the position regarding availability of power in the Southern States during the last two years, year-wise ; and

(b) whether these States had experienced shortages during those years ; if so, the extent of shortages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (b) The power supply position in the Southern States during 1985-86 and 1986-87 was as under :

(Figs. in MU)

1985-86	1986-87
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Andhra Pradesh

Requirement	13534	15057
Availability	13534	15057
Deficit (%)	—	—

Karnataka

Requirement	12166	14163
Availability	9463	10350
Deficit (%)	2703 (22%)	3813 (27%)

Kerala

Requirement	5225	5567
Availability	5225	5146
Deficit (%)	—	421 (8%)

Tamil Nadu

(including Pondi-cherry)

Requirement	14610	16391
Availability	13076	14983
Deficit (%)	1534 (10%)	1408 (9%)

Inspection of Indian Express News Papers (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd.

3579. SARIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Company Law Board ordered inspection of the Indian Express Newspapers (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd. vide letter No. 21/46/81 CL II of December 3, 1981, and subsequent inspection of various connected companies ; and

(b) if so, the details of the inspection report and the further action taken for irregularities, etc. found therein ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) No inspection of Indian Express Newspapers (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd. was ordered vide Company Law Board letter No. 21/46/81-CL. II of Dec., 3, 1981. However an inspection of the said Company had been carried out under section 209 A of the Companies Act, 1956 in February 1984. Subsequently inspections of various connected companies were also ordered.

(b) Arising out of the inspection of M/s. Indian Express Newspapers (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd., necessary prosecution proceedings have been initiated against the company, its directors and others for violation of section 187 C (1), (2) & (5) of the Companies Act, 1956. Prosecution proceedings have also been launched under section 628 of the said Act against the above company and its two directors. As a result of the findings in the Inspection Reports of this company and other connected companies, Company Law Board has ordered on 13.11.87 an investigation into the affairs of eight companies under Section 237 (b), (i) and (ii) of the companies Act, 1956

[Translation]

Energy Schemes for Sagar District

3580. SHRI NANDLAL CHOU-DHARY)) : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the schemes regarding energy sanctioned for Sagar district during 1986-87 ; and

(b) the cost of each of these schemes and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) No scheme regarding generation of energy was sanctioned during 1986-87 for Sagar District.

(b) Does not arise

[English]

Production of Cigarettes and Beedis

3581. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether production of cigarettes (both small and large organised and non-organised sectors) has been steadily going down due to the use of media by Government ;

(b) whether similar trend has been found in the case of beedis ; and

(c) if so, the production of both, year-wise. State-wise for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The production of cigarettes in the organised sector as reported to Directorate General of Technical Development during the last three years is as under :

Year	Production of Cigarettes (in million pieces)
1984	84997
1985	80681
1986	72675

Production figures of cigarettes in the small scale sector are not centrally maintained.

The decline in production may be due to several factors such as price increases, increases in cost of production, greater health consciousness resulting in lower consumption of cigarettes etc.

(b) and (c) Bulk of the beedi manufacturing activity is in the cottage sector and figures of production etc., of such units are not maintained by the Government. No survey has been carried out to ascertain the trends in the production of beedis.

Joint Venture Projects by ONGC and SCI

3582. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some joint venture projects are proposed to be launched by the Oil & Natural Gas Commission and the shipping Corporation of India ;

(b) if so, the number of joint venture projects proposed to be launched , and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) Shipping Corporation of India and ONGC have a tentative, proposal to pool their OSVs in a joint venture with equity participation of 51% and 49% respectively for providing supply vessel services for offshore operations of ONGC in West Coast and East Coast

Billing on Basis of Actual Consumption of Energy

3583. SHRI SAMBHAJIRAO KAKADE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) whether the domestic power consumer in the capital would now be billed on the basis of actual energy consumed and not on the basis of the sanctioned load as reported in 'Indian Express', dated 6 January, 1987;

(b) whether any action has been taken by the DESU to implement this important and rational decision and issued instructions to the various Field Organisations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the precise position and rationale behind not implementing the Chairman's public announcement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) According to the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, all categories of consumers are already being billed on the basis of actual energy consumed. However, consumers other than domestic consumers, now pay penalty on excess Consumption/Demand beyond the prescribed limit for consumption per kilowatt of load. Earlier the penalty was being levied if the connected load exceeded the sanctioned load irrespective of the actual energy consumption.

These amended provisions have already been circulated by DESU to the concerned officers for ensuring their implementation. A public notice in this regard has also been issued by DESU.

(a) Does not arise in view of the answer to parts (a) to (c) above.

Rise in Prices of Seras and Vaccines

3584. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of certain essential seras and vaccines have gone up three times during the last one month; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Manufacturers/importers of non-scheduled formulations are free to revise the prices with 50% Zmargin as per provisions of DPCO, 1987. However, to the extent information is available, prices of indigenously produced seras and vaccines have not been increased.

[Translation]

Telecommunications Staff College

3585. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telecommunication Advisory Committee of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering Institute has suggested to open a Telecommunications Staff College for the training of the employees;

(b) if so, the name of the place where this staff college is likely to be set up and the total cost involved on it; and

(c) the time by which this college will start functioning and if Government have not so far taken any initiative in this regard the main reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. The Government is not aware of such a suggestion.

(b) and (c) At present an Advanced Level Telecommunication Training Centre already exists and is functioning at Ghaziabad as a Staff College for the Department of Telecom. No new staff college is, therefore, proposed to be set up.

Turnover of HMT Ltd.

3586 **SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL**
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of goods being manufactured by HMT Limited;

(b) what was the turnover of HMT Ltd during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 and the profit earned by the various units during the said period;

(c) what are the details of goods exported by HMT Ltd, and the value of goods exported during the said period;

(d) whether there is a great demand of goods manufactured by HMT Ltd., particularly tools and watches; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to increase the production of HMT Ltd. to increase the turnover and the profit?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J VENGAL RAO) : (a) HMT manufactures machine tools, watches, tractors, dairy machinery and lamps.

(b) The turnover of HMT during 1985-86 and 1986-87 has been Rs. 374.45 crores and Rs. 493.13 crores respectively. The unit-wise profits earned by HMT during the above period are given in the statement given below

(c) HMT undertakes all its exports through its subsidiary, HMT (International) Ltd. It exports goods and services mainly concerning engineering items. Its exports were Rs. 7.6 crores during 1985 and Rs. 16.98 crores during 1986.

(d) The demand for watches, tractors and some varieties of machine tools is quite good

(e) HMT has planned to undertake aggressive marketing, cost reduction measures, introduce new products to improve turnover and profits.

Statement

Unit-wise Net Profit/(Loss) by HMT Limited during 1985-86 and 1986-87

(Rs. in lakhs)

Unit	1985-86	1986-87
Machine Tool Division, Bangalore	468	458
Die Casting Division, Bangalore	77	75
Machine Tool Divn., Pinjore	344	263
Machine Tool Divn., Kalamassery	25	14
Machine Tool Divn., Hyderabad	(330)	(371)
Press Divn., Hyderabad	(173)	(278)
Machine Tool Divn., Ajmer	3	(13)
Horological Mech. Divn., Bangalore	121	128
Printing Mech. Divn., Kalamassery	7	4

CNC System Division	—	3
Instrumentation & Control System Divn., Bangalore	—	3
R&D (Metal Cutting) Centre	(93)	(119)
Central Metal Forming Instt., Hyderabad	(122)	(124)
Watch Factory I & II, Bangalore	226	260
Watch Factory III, Srinagar	(58)	(76)
Watch Factory IV, Tumkur	860	922
Watch Factory V, Ranibagh	(572)	(556)
Watch Assembly Ancillaries	362	218
Quartz Analog Watches, Bangalore	159	186
Watch Case Assembly, Bangalore	3	7
Miniature Battery Project, Guwahati	(35)	(14)
Tractor Division, Pinjore	277	332
Dairy Machinery Unit, Aurangabad	7	2
Lamp Unit, Hyderabad	(689)	(763)
*Corporate Head Office	(5)	13
	— — — — —	— — — — —
TOTAL	862	576
	— — — — —	— — — — —

*To be allocated to Business Groups.

No Industry Districts in Andhra Pradesh

3587. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any survey for 'No-Industry' districts in all the States;

(b) if so, the names and other details of such districts, particularly the districts of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the steps being taken in the 'No-Industry' districts to convert them into industrial districts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) to (c) The districts which did not have any large or medium scale industry existing as per District Industry Centre Action plans for 1979-80, have been identified as 'No-Industry Districts'. No district in Andhra Pradesh fulfilled this criteria.

The 'No Industry Districts' have been included in Category 'A' of backward areas and the entrepreneurs setting up industries in these districts are eligible for over-riding priority, highest rate of Central Investment Subsidy i.e. @ 25% subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs enhanced to Rs. 50 lakhs for setting up Electronic industries in Hill districts of Category 'A', Concessional finance facilities from All India Term Lending Financial Institutions, tax concessions, etc.

Central assistance is provided to States for development of infrastructural facilities

in 'No Industry Districts' to the extent of 2/3rd of the total cost-with a ceiling of Rs. 2 crores per District,

Guidelines for Import of Penicillin

3588. **SHRI SIDHA LAL MURMU:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued guidelines that no further import of Penicillin will be allowed to indigenous producers if 6APA is not made available to Small Scale Industrial Units under canalised distribution;

(b) If so, the details of the same;

(c) whether these guidelines were enforced while clearing applications of 6 APA recently, and

(d) If so, what are the details of the same and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Per Capita Power Availability in Bihar

3589. **SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita availability of power in the entire country particularly in the entire Bihar, North Bihar, Chhotanagpur and Central Bihar since 1985 to date year-wise;

(b) the measures being adopted to increase the power availability in the aforesaid areas and to remove the disparities among them;

(c) whether arrangements are being made to generate hydel power at various points of Western Kosi canal and Tirhut canal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Price of Penicillin-G first Crystals

3590. **DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of Penicillin-G first crystals recommended by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices is based on lower production figures than the actual production figures of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited and the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to lower the prices of Penicillin-G first crystals in view of increased production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS & PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Supply of Imported Edible Oils to Refined Oil Industry

3591. **SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the basis of allotment of imported edible oils to Vanaspati Industry;

(b) the reasons for supplying imported edible oils only on adhoc basis by auction to refined oil industry and not by regular allotment at a fixed price as in the case of Vanaspati Industry;

(c) whether it is proposed to supply imported edible oils to refined oil industry at the same price as that of vanaspathi industry to enable refined oil industry to make refined oil at much cheaper rates to customers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) To maintain adequate production of vanaspathi at reasonable prices imported edible oils are allocated to the industry to the extent of gap between requirement and availability of permissible indigenous edible oils. Part of the allocation is at a price of Rs. 18,000 per metric tonne.

(b) to (d) To supplement the open market availability of edible oils and to keep the prices at reasonable level, imported refined edible oils are being supplied through Public Distribution System at cheap rates. To further remedy the situation caused by setback in oilseeds/oil production due to drought, it has been decided to supply imported crude edible oils to the refineries at Rs. 18,000 per metric tonne to improve availability in open market.

Complaints in Working of Telephone Exchange in Madhya Pradesh

3592. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are serious complaints in the working of Budni, Nasrullaganj, Udaipura, Diwanganj and Sanchi telephone exchanges in Madhya Pradesh and subscribers are not able to talk on trunk calls through these exchanges;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) what effective steps are being taken to improve these exchanges and other telephone linkages with the district headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a)

No. Sir. There are no serious complaints about the working of Budni, Nasrullaganj, Udaipura, Diwanganj and Sanchi telephone exchanges in Madhya Pradesh. However, sometimes complaints are received of delay in maturing of trunk calls.

(b) The reason for delay in maturing of trunk calls is due to interruptions in over-head open wire lines.

(c) A trunk board is being provided at Budni, Nasrullaganj will be connected with this board to improve the trunk working of these exchanges. For other exchanges traffic is too low to justify the additional expense of providing direct circuits to their district Headquarters at present. However, all efforts are being made to keep the trunk lines in good working condition.

Improvement in Capacity Utilisation of State Electricity Boards

3593. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) whether the performance of the electricity boards of different States has improved.

(b) if so, the percentage of improvement in the capacity utilisation of each State Electricity Board; and

(c) the steps being taken to further improve their performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) The average Plant Load Factor of thermal stations of State Electricity Boards during April to October, 1987 was 50.8% as compared with 47.6% during the same period last year. Information about individual State Electricity Boards during these periods is given in the statement below

(c) Various measures being taken to further improve the Plant Load Factor of thermal stations include implementation of the centrally sponsored Renovation & Modernisation Programme, assistance to

State Electricity Boards in undertaking Plant betterment programmes as well as in the procurement of spare parts, supply of requisite quality and quantity of coal, training of personnel etc

Plant Load Factors of various Electricity Boards during April-October, 1986 and 1987.

State/System	Plant Load Factor(%) April-October	
	Actual 1987	Actual 1986
1. DESU	44.9	71.6
2. HSEB	38.3	31.6
3. RSEB	67.2	45.7
4. PSEB	64.8	60.5
5. UPSEB	44.5	37.6
6. YEB	59.1	52.0
7. MSEB	53.6	50.6
8. MPEB	48.8	48.0
9. APSEB	74.7	65.3
10. TNEB	65.2	64.9
11. KPC	53.8	39.9
12. BSEB	30.4	33.2
13. OSEB	33.2	30.0
14. WBSEB	43.4	44.3
15. WBPDEV CO.	44.2	34.2
16. DPL	31.4	24.5
17. ASEB	30.7	16.9
Total SEBs	50.8	47.6

Extra LPG Quota to Dealers in
West Bengal

3594. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the LPG dealers of various States have been given extra quota for this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; state-wise ;

(c) whether the LPG dealers of West Bengal have not got any extra quota this year;

(d) if so, whether his Ministry will increase the quota and supply more gas to the LPG dealers of West Bengal during the remaining period of the current financial year;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(d) to (f) The oil industry will continue its endeavour to meet the LPG requirements of consumers in West Bengal also, including the requirements of new consumers, subject to augmentation in the availability of LPG, bottling capacity etc.

Telegraph Office at Rampur (Jaunpur)

3595. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no telegraph office within a radius of 50Kms of Rampur (Jaunpur) Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether there is proposal to establish a telegraph office there on priority; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) There is a Departmental Telegraph Office at Bhadohi at a distance of 10 Kms. from Rampur (Jaunpur). There is also a Telegraph Office working on Phonocom basis at Rampur (Jaunpur).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Technology for Manufacture of Solar Photovoltaic Cells

3596. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had cleared two joint venture projects for the manufacture of solar photovoltaic cells, modules and systems based on imported technology,

(b) whether Government are aware that indigenous technology is available for the manufacture of solar photovoltaic cells; and

(c) the compelling reasons to approve the import of technology when indigenous technology was available ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) Government is fully aware of the status of technology development in India and abroad for the manufacture of solar photovoltaic cells, modules and systems. At present, the single crystal silicon based technology for the manufacture of solar cells has been developed and put into commercial production in the country. One proposal involving foreign collaboration based on amorphous silicon technology has so far been approved. This is quite different from the technology developed and commercialised indigenously, and holds promise for reducing costs of photovoltaic products. Photovoltaic technology has immense potential for utilisation in India, especially for meeting the electrical energy requirements in rural areas. The present policy framework, therefore, provides for the induction and newer and improved technologies where appropriate and reasonable, while protecting and upgrading indigenous technology.

Takeover of Chembur Complex of Union Carbide

3597. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are actively considering a proposal to

takeover Chembur Complex of Union Carbide, which is closed by the management and hand it over to IPCL (Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.); and

(b) whether Union Government has received any such suggestion from the Maharashtra Government and the Workers Union ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Certain proposals/suggestions have been received from the Maharashtra Government and the Workers Union in this regard. The various implications of the proposals are under study.

Setting up of Heavy Industries

3598. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to create 'One Heavy Industry' in each and every parliamentary constituency all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The location of large industrial projects is based on techno-economic considerations. Subject to techno-economic considerations, preference is given to the location of the Central projects in regions which are industrially backward. The Government also encourage the dispersal of industries by giving various incentives for setting up industrial units in areas which are notified as backward.

Nationalisation of Sugar Industry

3599. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any report has been submitted to Government proposing for nationalisation of the sugar industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Non Implementation of new Prices for Drug Formulations

3601. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been reported that a number of drug units have decided not to implement new prices of drug formulations in Category I and II under the Drug Price Control Order, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons put forward by these units;

(c) whether Government have considered their suggestions; and

(d) if so, to what extent they have been accepted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS & PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.R. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Employees of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

3604. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of labour, skilled and unskilled permanent and casual, category-wise, employed in the Bharat Heavy Electri-

cals Limited unit in Ranipet, North Arcot district, Tamil Nadu; and

(q) what is the recruitment procedure regarding employment of casual labour in that unit ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) The number of skilled, unskilled and casual labour, employed in BHEL unit in Ranipet, North Arcot District, Tamil Nadu, is as under :

Skilled		Unskilled	
Permanent	Casual	Permanent	Casual
897	46	552	34

(b) The casual labour is employed from amongst local people subject to requirement and recruitment specification is being met.

Use of Fuel Generated from Biogas Plants

3605. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHI-MALABALI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether in most of the biogas plants established in certain parts of the country under subsidy scheme of the Union Government, large quantities of fuel generated are being wasted; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to make use of the fuel generated from these plants ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) No, Madam. Generation of fuel gas from biogas plants depends upon many variable factors, such as capacity of the plants, quantity and frequency of addition of cattle dung, ambient temperature, etc. With a view to make optimum use of biogas plants installed, State Governments and programme implementing agencies have already been instructed to organise large number of Users' Training Courses in the operation and maintenance of plants, and arrange post-installation servicing and repairing of plants.

Export of Maruti Cars

3606. **PROF. K.V. THOMAS** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Maruti cars exported so far; and

(b) the foreign earnings made therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM**) : (a) and (b) As on 31-10-87, the number of Maruti cars exported is 623, earning a foreign exchange of US \$ 2.12 million approximately.

Cogeneration Energy Technology

3607. **SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI**:
DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to an international technology expert, the cogeneration energy technology is an ideal solution for developing countries which are facing serious power shortages;

(b) whether Government have since examined the know-how of this technology; and

(c) the details of the technology and reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (**SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI**) : (a) Government is not aware of the report of the international technology expert in question. However, cogeneration technology for generating additional power is well known and is being put to use in various industrial units.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Prevention of Environment Pollution by Oil Operations

3608. **DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA** : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has undertaken any study of the effect of pollution caused by petroleum gas effluents onshore and of sea-pollution caused by drilling operations conducted in the off-shore regions of India;

(b) if so, the results of the study;

(c) whether any measures are being devised to check the effects of pollution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (**SHRI BRAHMA DUTT**) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Results of these studies showed that impact of ONGC's activities on marine environment was negligible.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The measures include :-

- Continuous monitoring to ensure environmental safeguards.
- Installation of pollution control plants equipments, so that effluent discharge is in accordance with the standard prescribed by the Central and state pollution control Boards.
- Posting of Environmental Engineers to closely monitor and take remedial steps wherever necessary.
- Special training programmes for ONGC personnel for creating awareness of adhering to the prescribed environmental standards.

Central Consumers Protection Council

3609. **SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI** :
SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Central Consumer Protection Council (CCPC) to end consumer exploitation;

(b) whether there is a proposal to set up any agencies at the State and District levels to investigate into various consumer grievances; and

(c) if so, what are the executive powers to be given to such agencies for redressal of grievances of the public ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) The Central Consumer Protection Council, constituted under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, is an advisory body whose object is to promote and protect the rights of the consumers such as right to safety, right to be informed, right to be heard, right to choose, right to seek redressal and right to consumer education. The suggestions of the Council are recommendatory in nature. The Consumer Protection Act, 1986, envisages a separate three-tier quasi-judicial machinery for the redressal of consumers complaints. The Act applies to all goods and services unless exempted by the Central Government. The three-tier redressal machinery conceived in the Act is at District, State and national level. The Redressal Forums in Districts can award appropriate reliefs/compensation in cases of consumer Complaints upto claims of Rs. 1 lakh. The State Commission can entertain consumers's complaints and award appropriate reliefs/compensation for claims in excess of Rs. 1 lakh and upto Rs. 10 lakhs. The National Commission can entertain compliants and award reliefs/compensation in cases of claims in excess of Rs 10 lakhs. The National Commission and the State Commission have been vested with appellate powers.

Profits of Super Bazar

3610. **SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ:**
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD
SINGH :

Will the Minister of **FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7235 on 21 April, 1987 regarding profits of Super Bazar and state :

(a) the total sales of Super Bazar during 1986-87 and how does it compare with sales of the last three years;

(b) the total gross and net profit earned during 1986-87 and how does it compare with the last three years; and

(c) the reasons for decrease in the profits and rise in overhead expenses ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) The estimated sales turn over of Super Bazar Delhi during the year 1986-87 (July to June) was Rs. 6978.00 lakhs which was higher as compared to the audited sales turnover of Rs. 3909.09 lakhs, Rs. 4431.70 lakhs and Rs. 6512.08 lakhs during the preceding three years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 respectively.

(b) The tentative gross profit for 1986-87 was Rs. 465 lakhs (unaudited) and tentative net profit was about Rs. 40.55 lakhs. The gross profit of Super Bazar during 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 was Rs. 287.95 lakhs, Rs. 273.67 and Rs. 343.55 lakhs respectively, while the net profit during the corresponding years was Rs. 58.45 lakhs, Rs. 16.49 lakhs and Rs. 31.64 lakhs.

(c) There has been no decrease in profit during 1986-87. The net profit had been steadily increasing from 1984-85 onwards. However the overhead expenses have been increasing mainly due to payment of additional dearness allowances to the staff and in running special mobile vans for distribution of certain essential commodities on very low margins under the 20 point programme.

Production of Cement in Gujarat

3611. **SHRI U.H. PATEL :**
SHRI A. CHARLES :
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of cement in the country is not

sufficient in comparison to demand and supply;

(b) if so, what is the production of cement in Gujarat and other States during 1984-85 to 1986-87, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the demand and supply of cement from and to Gujarat and other States during the above period;

(d) whether the production of cement is declining year by year;

(e) if so, what steps are being taken and incentives given to push up the production of cement; and

(f) what is the target of production, demand and supply of cement during 1st December, 1987 to 31st December, 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) The production of cement during the year 1986-87 was 36.50 million tonnes and it is anticipated to be around 41.50 million tonnes during the current financial year. This production is sufficient to meet the current requirements.

(b) The production of cement factories in the large scale sector in Gujarat and other States during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 year-wise and State-wise is given in the Statement below. However, the total production in the country including production of white cement and mini cement plants during the last 3 years was as follows :-

1984-85	30.19 million tonnes
1985-86	33.13 million tonnes
1986-87	36.50 million tonnes

(c) There is no system of ascertaining the requirements of cement of the States/ Union Territories. The States/Union Territories are also not communicating their requirement of cement on a regular basis. However, the current production is sufficient to meet the current demand in the country. As regards Gujarat State, it has

always been more or less self-sufficient in terms of cement as cement factories located in Gujarat are able to meet the local requirements. In fact, cement is also sent to destinations outside Gujarat because of new capacity coming up in that State.

(d) No, Sir. The production of cement has not been declining year after year. On the contrary the production has been increasing constantly as shown by the following figures of the last 3 years .

Year	Cement Production (in MTs)
1984-85	30.19
1985-86	33.13
1986-87	36.50

The production during the current financial year i.e. 1987-88 is likely to be 41.50 million tonnes.

(e) The following steps have been taken and incentives granted to push up production of cement in the country :

- (i) The retention price of heavy cement has been increased and the levy obligation of the cement industry has been reduced with the twin objective of compensating the industry for increase in the cost of production and improving its profitability.
- (ii) A rebate in excise duty to the extent of Rs. 20/- per tonne and Rs. 50/- per tonne has been given in respect of new units which commenced production between 1.1.1982 to 31.3.1986 and on and after 1.4.1986 respectively.
- (iii) The cement industry has been encouraged to set up captive diesel power generating capacity and appropriate relief by way of reduction in levy obligation is allowed to compensate for increased cost of cement production with the help of high cost DG captive power.

- (iv) The industry has been encouraged to convert wet process units into dry process units by giving suitable relief in levy obligation.

(f) The target of production is fixed on financial year basis i.e. 1st April to 31st March. The target of production for the year 1987-88 had been initially fixed at

42.40 million tonnes. However, due to severe power cuts in major cement producing States in the country there has been loss of production in various factories. The production during the year is likely to be around 41.50 million tonnes. The target for the year 1988-89 has been fixed at 46 million tonnes.

Statement

Production during the year 1984-1985 to 1986-87.

		(In Lakh Tonnes)		
Sl. No.	Name of the State	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.28	1.31	1.21
2.	H.P.	4.58	6.38	7.63
3.	Haryana	5.94	5.62	5.48
4.	Uttar Pradesh	9.07	10.89	10.10
5.	Rajasthan	34.52	41.27	42.18
6.	Assam	1.78	1.73	1.64
7.	Bihar	12.99	12.10	12.00
8.	Orissa	8.57	8.66	8.49
9.	West Bengal	3.53	3.61	3.95
10.	Maghalaya	0.96	0.89	0.98
11.	Gujarat	21.35	26.09	30.06
12.	Maharashtra	16.16	14.71	15.94
13.	Madhya Pradesh	66.50	70.72	79.48
14.	Karnataka	24.70	27.86	33.57
15.	Kerala	1.05	2.48	2.76
16.	Andhra Pradesh	44.09	48.80	54.67
17.	Tamil Nadu	38.98	37.26	38.06
Grand Total :		296.05	320.38	348.26

[Translation]

Setting up of Industries in States

3612. **SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received proposals from various States for the setting up of new industries and the expansion thereof ;

(b) if so, the State-wise number of such proposals;

(c) whether Government have also received proposals from UP Government for setting up of some industry in Barabanki District of UP ;

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the time by which such an industry would be established; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) and (b) The State-wise number of Industrial Licence applications received under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 during the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 (as on 23.11.87) are in the Statement below.

(c) No Sir. During the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 no Industrial Licence applications under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for setting up of Industry in Barabanki District of U.P. has been received from the U.P. State Government.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement-1

Number of Industrial Licence Applications received under the Provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951
State-Wise

Name of the State	1985	1986	1987 (as on (23.11 1987))
Andhra Pradesh	272	242	153
Arunachal Pradesh	6	—	2
Assam	48	37	15
Andaman and Nicobar	1	2	—
Bihar	47	55	21
Chandigarh	2	4	—
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11	14	5
Delhi	40	30	12
Gujarat	236	208	89
Goa, Daman and Diu	24	17	17
Haryana	124	114	58
Himachal Pradesh	52	55	45
Jammu & Kashmir	37	25	14
Kerala	48	34	21

Karnataka	145	114	99
Lakshadweep	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	187	220	77
Maharashtra	385	335	183
Manipur	1		2
Meghalaya	1	1	4
Nagaland	8	5	—
Mizoram	—	1	—
Orissa	47	54	34
Pondichery	24	25	19
Punjab	124	122	59
Rajasthan	116	88	70
Tamil Nadu	154	269	138
Tripura	2	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	382	387	163
West Bengal	87	110	45
Sikkim	1	3	—
More than one state	48	46	21
	<hr/> 2660	<hr/> 2617	<hr/> 1366

[English]

Indigenisation of Maruti

3613. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that indigenisation of Maruti Production is taking place as per the schedule; and

(b) if so, who are the suppliers of indigenously manufactured components, sub-assemblies and parts to Maruti ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) While Maruti Udyog Ltd. have achieved the projected indigenisation for in-house manufacture, there have been some shortfalls in ancillary development.

(b) Vendor development is a continuing process and at present there are 339 ancillary suppliers to Maruti Udyog Limited.

[Translation]

Extension of Validity period for regularisation of Small Scales Units

3614. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has sent any proposal to the Development Commissioner (Small Scales Industries) of Union Government for the extension of validity period for the registration of small scale units; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to simplify the rules in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Proposals for extension of the validity period of Provisional Registration of small scale units are received from State/UT Governments including Madhya Pradesh

As simplification of rules is a continuous process, the procedure for extension of the validity period of Provisional Registration is also kept under constant review.

Sanction of LPG Agencies, in U.P.

3615. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for opening a cooking gas agency in a city

(b) the State-wise number of applications sanctioned by Govt. for opening cooking gas agencies;

(c) the number of gas agencies opened in Uttar Pradesh, city-wise, during 1966-87 and the respective population of these cities;

(d) the reasons for not opening gas agencies, especially in some towns of Saharanpur, Bijnor and Muzaffar Nagar, having a population of 50,000 people or more; and

(e) the time by which Government propose to open gas agencies in the towns of Uttar Pradesh having a population of 50,000 or more?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):
(a) Towns and cities with population of around 20,000 and above (as per 1981 census) and offering sufficient potential for viable marketing of LPG are being covered in a phased manner by the Oil Industry ;

(b) The State-wise number of LPG distributorships functioning as on April 1, 1987 are given in Statement-I below.

(c) The required information is given in Statement-II below.

(d) Except Najibabad in district Bijnor, all towns with population of 50,000 and above in districts Bijnor, Saharanpur and Muzaffar nagar are provided with LPG facility.

(e) Gonda, Najibabad and Lakhimpur Khiri are three towns in UP with population of 50,000 and above which do not have LPG facility so far. Effort is under way to set up a distributorship at Gonda through the UP State Food and Essential Commodities Corporation Ltd; at Lakhimpur Khiri it is held up owing to stay order from a competent Court; and at Najibabad, with the litigation having recently ended, the process of selection of a distribution has been activated.

Statement-I

No. of existing LPG distributorships as on 1-4-1987

S.No.	Name of the State/U.T.	No. of LPG distributorships
1.	Andhra Pradesh	295
2.	Assam	70
3.	Bihar	102
4.	Gujarat	249
5.	Haryana	84
6.	Himachal Pradesh	22
7.	J & K	37
8.	Karnataka	186
9.	Kerala	116
10.	Madhya Pradesh	164
11.	Maharashtra	482
12.	Manipur	7
13.	Meghalaya	8
14.	Nagaland	8

15. Orissa	59	24. Chandigarh	22
16. Punjab	109	25. D&N. Haveli	1
17. Rajasthan	99	26. Delhi	172
18. Sikkim	1	27. Goa, Daman & Diu	25
19. Tamil Naidu	250	28. Mizoram	2
20. Tripura	7	29. Pandichary	5
21. Uttar Pradesh	308		— — —
22. West Bengal	170	Total	3066
23. Arunachal Pradesh	6		— — —

Statement-II

No. of LPG distributorships opened in U.P. from 1-4-1986 to 31-10-87

S.No	Location	District	Population
1.	Allhabad	Allahabad	642400
2.	Tundla	Agra	27463
3.	Jaunpur	Jaunpur	105000
4.	Bahraich	Bahraich	102580
5.	Varanasi	Varanasi	729700
6.	Bhadoi	Varanasi	32192
7.	Chandpur	Bijnor	41552
8.	Baheri	Bareilly	29680
9.	Ujhani	Budaun	29487
10.	Kanpur (4 location)	Kanpur	1633500
11.	Seohara	Bijnor	30194
12.	Moradabad	Moradabad	348000
13.	Noida (2 location)	Ghaziabad	165000
14.	Lucknow (3 location)	Lucknow	976600
15.	Dehra Dun (Ladies Club ONGC)	Dehra Dun	—
16.	Khatima (KMVN)	Nainital	8443
17.	Muzaffarnagar	Muzaffarnagar	172400
18.	Kandhla	Muzaffarnagar	25500

19.	Raibareilly	Raibareilly	90400
20.	Aonla	Bareilly	26419
21.	Dehra Dun	Dehra Dun	280400
22.	Kanpur (3 locations)	Kanpur	1633500
23.	Sitapur	Sitapur	98300
24.	Nagina	Bijnor	50400
25.	Kiratpur	Bijnor	37079
26.	Allahabad	Allahabad	642400
27.	Agra	Agra	765000
28.	Hapur	Ghaziabad	103500
29.	Aligarh	Aligarh	320000
30.	Robertsaganj	Mirzapur	16132
31.	Kasganj	Etah	61402
32.	Anup Shahr	Bulandshahr	15,200
33.	Jhansi	—	2,73,900
34.	Sarohana	—	30,100
35.	Mainpuri	—	59,800
36.	Hathras	—	91,000
37.	Deoria	—	55,700
38.	Konch	—	35,100
39.	Dhampur	—	29,100
40.	Faizabad	—	1.41,700
41.	Mankapur	—	N.A.
42.	Babina	—	N.A.

[English]

Waiting list for Telephone Connections in Nagpur

3616. **SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the waiting list for telephone connections is mounting day by day in the Nagpur main telephone exchange and Itwari telephone exchange;

(b) if so, the number of persons on waiting list in each category in Nagpur

main and Itwari exchanges and since when; and

(c) the efforts made to clear the waiting lists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of persons on waiting list in each category in Nagpur main and Itwari exchanges and the earliest date of applicant waiting for telephone connection under various categories is as under :-

Name of Exchange	Category	No. of Persons on waiting list	Date since waiting
Nagpur Main	OYT SPL.	420	12.10.82
	OYT General.	331	19.6.82
	Non OYT SPL.	899	28.8.62
	Non OYT Genl.	5084	3.8.80
Total		6734	
Itwari Telephone Exchange	OYT SPL	25	1.2.87
	OYT General.	276	18.2.86
	Non OYT SPL.	461	29.8.84
	Non OYT Genl.	4502	9.3.82
Total		5264	
Grand Total		11,998	

(c) 10,000 lines E-10B Main exchange is likely to be commissioned in 1988-89. Further 4,000 lines at VRCE and 3,000 lines at Sakardhara are likely to be commissioned in the early part of the 8th Plan.

Telephone District in Maharashtra

3617. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether generally for 10,000 connections of telephones, a district is sanctioned;

(b) if so, how many new telephone districts are proposed during 1987-88 in Maharashtra;

(c) whether Kalyan complex area of Maharashtra is having nearly 20,000 connections; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not upgrading Kalyan complex to telephone district and when it will be upgraded ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. According to the Secondary Switching Area Scheme introduced in the Department, there will be no Telephone Districts or Telegraph Divisions, instead there will be Telecom. Districts, generally conforming to the boundaries of Revenue Districts.

(c) Workload of Telecom. District, Kalyan is nearly 20,000 direct exchange lines.

(d) Upgradation of Telecom. District at Kalyan to Junior Administrative Grade, is not likely at present, in view of the need for strict economy in administrative expenditure.

Licences for Food Processing Industry

3618. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of food processing industries particularly for potato snack foods and tomato processing industries are coming up in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, what steps would be taken to promote such units; and

(d) whether Government propose to consider any move to link such food industries with production of soft drinks on the basis of imported concentrates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Details of approval issued during 1986 and 1987 (upto Oct) for setting up of food processing industries in the State of Punjab are given below :-

Industrial Licences	...	3
Letters of Intent	...	1
SIA Registration	...	5
(under Delicensing scheme)		
DGTD Registration	—	3

(c) Food Processing Industries are covered by the Delicensing Scheme introduced in March 1985. Entrepreneurs setting up of food processing industries in Backward areas, as in the case of other entrepreneurs, are eligible to receive incentives under the Central Incentive Scheme for the Development of Industrially Backward Areas. The State Government of Punjab have informed that they are keen to promote fruit/vegetable processing industry in the State and that several financial incentives are available to such projects.

(d) No, Sir.

Gas Cracker Complex of Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd

3619. SHRIMATI USHA CHOU-DHARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gas cracker complex of the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. would comply with schedule and there is no likelihood of cost overrun of this Project; and

(b) what is the capital outlay for the project at Nagothane in Alibaug district and when the work would complete and commence operation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) The approved capital cost of MGCC being implemented by Indian Petrochemicals Corporation (IPCL) Limited is Rs. 1167 crores and is scheduled for completion by August 1989. The project authorities have recently indicated that the cost estimates may undergo a change in view of the increased rates of customs duty exchange rate variations and higher incidence of financing charges.

Proposal of Assam Government to Import Gas Turbines

3620. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Assam have sought clearance of Union Government to their proposal to import four gas turbines required for augmenting the deteriorating electric power generation problem in Assam;

(b) if so, whether Union Government have agreed to the proposal; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not agreeing to the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) to (c) An application from Assam State Electricity Board to import 4X15 MW TG sets from Japan for their Lakwa Gas Thermal Power Station Phase II for a value of Rs. 2372.51 lakhs (cif) plus erection charges of Rs. 57.41 lakhs was received in this Department and was considered by the Empowered Committee in its meeting held on 29.4.1987. The Committee observed that the State Electricity Board has not obtained prior permission of the Empowered Committee for floating global tenders for import of proposed TG sets. Further, BHEL were in a position to supply 3 nos. 20 MW TG sets and the Board could meet their requirement by installation of higher capacity TG sets as offered by BHEL. The Committee was of the view that on account of the above there was no justification for import of these TG sets. The proposal was accordingly rejected. This decision was conveyed to the Assam State Electricity Board on 16-6-1987.

**Recovery of Unintended Profits from
Drug Manufacturing Companies**

3621. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI H.B. PATIL :
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR
TRIPATHI :
DR. B.L. SHAIKESH :
DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :
SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :
SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA
REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to recover unintended profits from the drug manufacturing companies;

(b) if so, the names of the drug companies and the amount to be recovered;

(c) how much amount has been deposited and by when the balance will be recovered;

(d) whether a special team constituted to assess the amount recoverable from these drug companies has submitted its report;

(e) if so, the details of its recommendations; and

(f) the details of the recommendations which have been accepted by Government ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND
PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHAN-
DRA SINGH) (a) . Yes, Sir.**

(b) and (c) The recovery of unintended profits from the drug manufacturing companies is not a one time process but a continuous one.

(d) to (f) To the extent information made available by the companies, the following are the approximate amounts assessed by the special team to be recovered from the companies for the period ending 31-12-1983:

1. M/s. Hoechst (I) Ltd. Rs. 5,64,12,423
2. M/s. Cyanamid (I) Ltd. Rs. 4,92,00,247
3. M/s. John Wyeth Ltd. Rs. 1,66,87,232
4. M/s. Pfizer Ltd. Rs. 99,07,731
5. M/s. Geoffrey Manners Rs. 29,85,268
Ltd.
6. M/s. Ethnor Ltd. Rs. 10,18,543

Oil India Ltd. Operations in Assam

3622. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY ;
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil India Limited's operations in Assam have achieved the target of 2.4 M. tonnes for 1986-87 ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the prospects for its achieving the target for 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a) During 1986-87, total production of crude oil from Oil India Limited's fields was 2.64 million tonnes out of which production from Assam was 2.58 million tonnes.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) the revised target for 1987-88 is 2.55 million tonnes. Out of this expected production from Assam will be 2.50 million tonnes.

Telecommunications Network in Tribal Belt of Orissa

3623. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any project is being implemented for providing telecommunications network in tribal belt of Orissa with details ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAM DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is a plan to open 57 new Telephone Exchanges and 180 Long Distance Public Telephones in Tribal areas of Orissa during 7th Plan. 29 Telephone Exchanges and 70 Long Distance Public Telephones have already been opened upto 31.3.87. 9 Telephone Exchanges and 30 Long Distance Public Telephones are likely to be opened during 1987-88.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Performance of Public Sector

3624. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is improvement in the performance of Public Sector during 1986-87 ;

(b) if so, the net profit made by public sector units during 1986-87 ;

(c) the details of the sector-wise profit during 1986-87 ; and

(d) the total investment on public sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) and (b) Final Figures relating to financial performance of Central public enterprises during the year 1986-87 are not yet available. However, based on provisional un-audited figures received from 178 enterprises, the overall working results during 1986-87 show a net profit of Rs. 1994.57 crores as against a net profit of Rs. 1199.35 crores made during 1985-86 for all the Public Enterprises put together.

(c) Provisional data regarding sector-wise profits during 1986-87 are given in the Statement below.

(d) Information on investment in public sector as on 31.3.1987 is not readily available. Total investment in Public Sector as on 31.3.1986 was Rs 50,341 crores.

Statement Sector-wise Analysis

Sl. No.	Sector	(Rs. in crores)
		Net Profit/Loss (-) (+)
1.	Steel	(+)28.61
2.	Minerals & Metal	(-)-32.76

3. Power	(+)209.94
4. Petroleum	(+)2084.45
5. Chemicals, Fertilizers & Pharmaceuticals	(—)125.94
6. Heavy Engineering	(+)60.46
7. Medium & Light Engineering	(+)43.15
8. Transportation Equipment	(+)3.84
9. Consumer Goods	()128.02
10. Agra Based Products	()3.07
11. Textiles	()137.44
12. Trading & Marketing	(+)209.73
13. Transportation Services	(—)33.26
14. Contracts & Construction Services	()3.56
15. Industrial Development and Technical Consultancy	(+)31.49
16. Development of Small Industries	(+)1.40
17. Tourist Services	(+)1.66
18. Financial Services	(+)31.48
19. Section 25 Companies	(+)0.69
	— — —
TOTAL	(+)1994.57
	— — —

Industrial Growth

3625. **PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE :** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been severe constraints on the rate of industrial growth;

(b) if so, what are the constraints;

(c) what is the expected rate of industrial growth as a result of these constraints by the end of the current financial year; and

(d) what steps are proposed to augment the rate of industrial growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNCHALAM) :

(a) to (c) On the basis of latest available index of industrial production, the rate of growth of industry during April-June, 1987 over April-June 1986 was 11.5 per cent as compared to 6.1 per cent during the corresponding period of last year.

(d) Government have inter-alia, taken several measures to stimulate industrial production/growth which include delicensing of industries, broad-banding, re-endorsement of capacity with reference to minimum economic scales of operation, enlargement of Appendix-I industries, adoption of a simplified procedure for recognition of

capacity arising out of modernisation/replacement/renovation of plant and machinery etc. Time limits have been prescribed for various clearances/approvals by Licensing Committee, Project Approval Board, Capital Goods Committee, Foreign Investment Board etc. Powers have been delegated to Administrative Ministries.

During 1987-88 a special programme of technological upgradation for selected capital goods industries has been launched. These include electrical machinery, power generation equipment, ferrous castings and steel forgings, machine tools and industrial machinery.

Non-availability of essential Commodities in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

3626. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the essential commodities edible oils are not available in Andaman & Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details of supplies made during the past three years; and

(c) the action Government contemplate to ensure the supply of essential commodities in the Islands ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) No complaints have been received from the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration since March 1987 regarding shortages in the availability of essential commodities.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shortage of LPG Cylinders in West Bengal

3627. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been complaints from LPG dealers in West Bengal regarding shortage of LPG cylinders and delay in supply of cylinders to dealers;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether Government have made any assessment of the time taken to replace LPG cylinder of a consumer by dealers in four major metropolitan cities;

(d) if so, the average time taken in each metropolitan city for the last one year and reasons for the difference in the time taken to replace cylinders; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Representations have been received from the LPG distributors in West Bengal regarding shortage in LPG refills supply;

(b) Backlogs in supply of LPG refills developed in several parts of the country recently due to reasons such as inadequate availability of the bulk product, movement problems, disruption of communication facilities because of the recent floods, etc. With the measures already taken to ease these constraints, it is expected that the situation will improve in the coming months;

(c) to (e) No, Sir. However, the situation is being closely monitored by the Oil Industry and immediate action is taken wherever necessary to minimise the backlog and to ensure timely supply of refills to the consumers as far as possible.

Issue of First Licence to a Fertiliser Factory to manufacture Cement

3628. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether this factory in Rourkela (Orissa) was allowed to discontinue the production of fertiliser for which the factory had obtained licence and loans from the Orissa State Financial Corporation which was reimbursed by the Industrial Development Bank of India;

(b) whether this factory has been given a fresh licence to manufacture cement instead

of fertiliser which is a very essential requirement for agricultural needs;

(c) if so, under what circumstances the original licence was removed and a fresh licence was issued for manufacturing cement; and

(d) whether the said cement factory is now being transferred to another company by its principal entrepreneur and whether the IDBI and the Orissa State Financial Corporation have given their initial consent for such a transfer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) to (d) Particulars of the fertilizer factory have been converted into a cement factory have not been indicated in the Question. However, a company, namely, Saraf Agencies Ltd. informed the Ministry in September, 1985 that in 1982 they had taken over a sick unit of M/s. Orissa Fertiliser and Chemicals Ltd. located in Sundergarh and that they had converted the same into a cement grinding unit. They had been grinding cement from the clinker procured from the factory of M/s. Orissa Cements Ltd. Rajgangpur. As, however, M/s. Orissa Cements has discontinued supplying clinker to them their grinding unit had stopped since July, 1985. In view of the difficulty in obtaining clinker from outside, the company applied to the D.G.T.D. in June, 1986 for the grant of Registration Certificate for setting up a mini cement unit with a capacity of 100 tonnes per day (33,000 tonnes per annum) and they were granted the certificate on 4th Sept, 1986.

Drilling Water in Drought Affected areas by ONGC

3629. D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ONGC has offered its services for drilling water in drought affected areas ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether such an offer is practical in its implementation ;

(d) the number of drilling rigs available in Gujarat for this purpose ; and

(e) when the work is likely to commence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTI) : (a) to (e) ONGC received a request from the Collector of Kachchh, Gujarat for allowing them to use the Suthari well with necessary pumping machinery for potable water. In the opinion of ONGC, water of the well was not fit for human consumption due to high salt contents. Accordingly, ONGC sent a suitable reply to the Collector of Kachchh, while offering to provide any assistance which the State Govt. may need to mitigate the sufferings of the drought affected population. However, no further request has been received from the State Government.

[Translation]

Payment of Arrears of Interim Relief to Officers of Heavy Engineering Corporation

3630. SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the arrears of the interim relief has been paid to the officers of Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the said amount will be paid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Due to continuing difficult liquidity position of the Company, the arrears of ad-hoc relief from 1.1.1986 to 31.7. 1987 have not been paid to the officers of H.E.C. Payment of arrears will depend on availability of funds.

[English]

Ceiling on Retail Prices of Edible Oils

3631. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government propose to impose a ceiling on the retail prices of edible oils ; and

(b) if so, the names of the varieties of edible oils and the details of the prices so fixed ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) According to a voluntary price discipline being observed by industry the maximum price of vanaspathi is 335/- per 5 kg tin. There is no proposal to impose ceiling on the retail prices of edible oils.

Diversion of Pipeline from Shahjahanpur

3632. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gas pipeline to Shahjahanpur is being diverted to some other place for providing gas for power generation ; and

(b) if so, whether the consent of the Department of Fertilizers has been sought for such change of end-use of the gas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Uniform Prices of Power of Centrally Owned Stations

3633. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision on the recommendation of

Rajadhyaksha Committee that power should be sold at uniform price throughout India to State Electricity Boards by pooling the costs of generation of all centrally owned stations ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) if not, the reasons for the abnormal delay ; and

(d) the likely date by which a decision will be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A uniform electricity tariff for the country involves not only a pooling of the cost of generation of power from various sources but also the cost of its transmission over different systems. A Committee of Experts has been appointed to examine, in detail, the implications and practicability of evolving a uniform tariff for power supply from all Central Sector Power generating stations and the cost of its transmission over different systems. A decision in the matter could be taken only after the Committee's recommendations are available.

Setting up of Industries in Backward Areas

3634. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN :
SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many companies are still not attracted towards backward districts since many of the State Governments fail to provide necessary infrastructure support ; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) and (b) Industrialisation of any particular area is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. The

Central Government supplements their efforts by providing incentives for setting up units in industrially backward areas/ No-Industry Districts. These measures have attracted entrepreneurs to set up their units in industrially backward areas as is clear from the following data :

Year	Letters of Intent		Industrial Licences		Dgtd Regns.	
	Total	Backward Areas	Total	Backward Areas	Total	Backward Areas
1984	1064	627	905	323	1915	1144
1985	1457	774	985	427	1961	1140
1986	1130	621	618	278	1162	610
1987	706	372	388	158	945	501

(upto Sept.)

As one of the impediments towards rapid industrialisation in the backward areas is the absence of infrastructural facilities, it has been decided (w.e.f. 1.4.83) to assist the State Governments to take up infrastructural development in one or two identified growth centres in each No-Industry District. Central subsidy of 1/3rd of the total cost of infrastructure development subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 crores per district is made available for each No-Industry district.

Generation of Power through Micro Hydel Projects in Kerala

**3635. SHRI BASHEER :
SHRI K. MOHANDAS :**

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kerala Government has sent any proposal for generation of power through mini/micro-hydel projects ;

(b) whether Kerala Government have sought any financial assistance for such projects ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) No

proposal for generation of power through mini/micro hydel projects or financial assistance for such projects has been received from the Government of Kerala.

(c) Does not arise.

Sewa Paper Mills, Jeypore, Orissa

3636. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sewa Paper Mills at Jeypore, Koraput district, Orissa is closed ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ;

(c) the total investment made by the Industrial Development Bank of India, the Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Limited and the Banks in Koraput district ; and

(d) what was the entrepreneur's own investment and how much Central and State subsidy was given to the entrepreneur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The operations at the mill have been unsatisfactory from the very inception, due to low capacity utilisation, management deficiency, strained liquidity and certain sectional imbalances in the plant.

(c) and (d) The financing of the projects has been as follows :-

(1)	Issued Capital	Rs. Lakhs	Rs. Lakhs
	Private promoters	348	
	Co-promoters-	1 36	
	IPICOL General Public	540	1024
(2)	Central subsidy	— —	15
(3)	Term loans from Institutions & Banks		2546
	Total	— — —	3585

Unutilised Licences issued to monopoly Houses

3637. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial licences granted to various monopoly houses during 1982-86;

(b) the number of licences which remained unutilised as on 1st January, 1986;

(c) the normal period of validity of such licences; and

(d) the break-up of unutilised licences according to major products till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 568 industrial licences (including 62 Carry-on Business licences) were granted during the years 1982 to 1986 to various undertakings registered under the MRTP Act.

The initial validity period of an industrial licence is two years within which

the entrepreneur is expected to commence commercial production. However, further extensions beyond the initial validity period of two years can also be granted by the administrative Ministry concerned on genuine grounds. Thus, it takes about three to four years for an industrial project to fructify. Gestation period, however, varies from project to project.

Out of the 568 industrial licences granted to various MRTP undertakings during the period 1982 to 1986, 5 industrial licences have since been cancelled/revoked. These 5 licences pertained to the manufacture of items viz. Aprotinine, Power-line Carrier Communication System, HRC fuse links/fuse Carrie, Winchester Disk Drives and Colour/Black and White T.V. receivers.

Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Ltd.

3638. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that since the judgement of the Supreme Court of January 22, 1987 the Board of Directors of the peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited has been reconstituted;

(b) if so, whether Government have obtained the details regarding the members of the Board of Directors and verified their antecedents; and

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal to nominate any Director on management of the Company under Section 408 of the Companies Act in public interest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) As per information furnished by the Company the following changes have taken place in the Board of Directors since 22.1.87 :-

- (i) Dr. Abhijit Sen, Director, resigned,
- (ii) Shri P.C. Sen, Director, appointed as Managing Director.

(iii) **Shri N.K. Banerjee**, Director resigned.

(iv) **Shri J.C. Bose Mullick**, appointed Director.

(b) Under Section 269 of the Companies Act, 1956, Government is required to determine only whether a person proposed to be appointed as Managing or Whole time-Director in a public company, or a private company which is a subsidiary of a public company, is a fit and proper person for such appointment. The Company has filed an application for approval of the Central Government for the appointment of **Shri P.C. Sen** as Managing Director which is under consideration.

(e) Company Law Board vide their order, dated 13.11.87, have decided to appoint four director on the Board of Directors of the Company under Section 408 of the Companies Act, 1956, for a period of three years. Pursuant to this order, Central Government appointed 4 directors on 19.11.1987. However, Central Government have been informed that the Company have filed a writ petition before the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta against the aforesaid order of the Company Law Board and that the Court have by an interim order dated 19.11.1987, stayed the operation of the Company Law Board's order of 13 November, 1987 and directed not to give effect or further effect to the same.

Setting up of Mini and Micro Hydel Schemes by R.E.C.

3639. **SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL** : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation has been entrusted with the setting up of mini and micro hydel schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of projects undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (**SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI**) : (a) and (b) Rural Electrification Corporation is taking up for

implementation six micro/mini/small hydel schemes with a total capacity of about 5 MW. These are pilot projects which are expected to be completed within a period of two years. The schemes would be executed on a turn-key basis by REC on terms and conditions to be settled with the State Electricity Boards concerned.

Rural Electrification in Orissa

3640. **SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK** : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa Government has approached the Union Government for rural electrification in the State During the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details of targets fixed for this purpose; and

(c) the details of the amount spent during the last three years year-wise along with the number of villages electrified so far and whether the targets for Seventh Five Year Plan have been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (**SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI**) : (a) and (b) For 1987-88, an outlay of Rs. 22.32 crores has been provided for Orissa envisaging electrification of 1400 villages and energisation of 5000 pumpsets. During 1987-88, the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has approved 9 Rural electrification schemes for Orissa upto 31.10.1987 with a financial outlay of Rs. 271 lakhs covering electrification of 216 villages and energisation of 163 pumpsets.

(c) The amount disbursed by REC during the last three years and the number of villages electrified (both under State Plan and Rural electrification schemes financed by REC) in Orissa are as under :-

Year	Amount disbursed by REC (Rs. in lakhs)	No. villages electrified
1984-85	1138	1242
1985-86	1436	1141
1986-87	1617	1392

The Seventh Plan envisages electrification of 7558 villages in Orissa. It is expected that the Seventh Plan target for village electrification will be, by and large achieved, subject to the availability of requisite funds in the remaining two years of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

**Five Year Action Plan for Relief of
Bhopal Gas Victims**

3641 SHRI H.A. DORA :
SHRI PARASRAM BHAR-
DWAJ :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have finalised a five-year Action Plan for the relief of victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHAMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have informed that the long term Action Plan for rehabilitation of the victims of the Bhopal gas disaster is being finalised.

**Edible Oils from Sunflowers, Palm
groundnut and Cotton Seeds**

3642, SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to become self-sufficient in the requirement of edible oils;

(b) whether it is a fact that the plantation of groundnut, sunflower and palm trees on commercial basis can enhance indigenous production of edible oils considerably ;

(c) whether it is a fact that cotton seeds can also prove to be solvent contributor in augmenting production of edible oils in India; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI
H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Government has taken a number of measures to increase the production of oilseeds and oils. The important measures taken are :

1. Implementation of the National Oilseeds Development Project, converging special measures for groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, soyabean and sunflower besides intensive development work on five other oilseeds.
2. State-level cooperative oilseeds growers, federation have been formed in some States under the project for restructuring of Edible Oils and Oilseeds production and marketing through National Dairy Development Board.
3. Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices for oilseeds at higher levels.
4. Intensification of research efforts for increasing the productivity of oilseeds. A technology Mission on oilseeds has been set up.
5. Increase in area under non-traditional oilseed crop like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.
6. Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.
7. Fiscal incentives for increased use of non-conventional oils by the vanaspati industry, exemption from excise duty in respect of refined rice bran, cottonseed and soyabean oils meant for direct human consumption and also for refined solvent extracted oil.

(b) Groundnut, sunflower seed and palm fruits are high oil-yielding sources and therefore encouragement to the extension of their cultivation/plantation will help increase in production of oils.

(c) and (d) Cottonseed is playing an important role in augmenting the production of edible oil in India. To encourage the production of cottonseed Oil, excise rebate and other concessions have been allowed as mentioned in part (a) above.

[*Translation*]

**Diesel Pumps in Morena District
(Madhya Pradesh)**

3643. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV .
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of diesel pump sets working in Morena district in Chambal division of Madhya Pradesh at present and the quantity of diesel supplied every month;

(b) whether consumers are getting requisite quantity of diesel with this supply; and

(c) if not, whether there is any scheme for installing more diesel pumps in Morena district and the time by which it would be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):
(a) 12 diesel retail outlets are operating in Morena District of Madhya Pradesh with a combined average monthly sale of 1201 Kls.

(b) and (c) As diesel is a free sale product, its demand in the District is by and large being met in full and no shortage has been reported. To meet the growing demand, the oil industry has initiated action for establishment of three new retail outlets in Morena district. Since steps like advertisement for inviting applications, selection by Oil Selection Board etc. are involved, no definite time limit about the commissioning of these outlets can be indicated.

[*English*]

Distribution of Palmolein in States

3644. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the monthly demand for palmolein by States and Union Territories from April to October, 1987 for public Distribution System;

(q) the allocation made and lifted by States and Union Territories in each month;

(c) whether Government have given guidelines about the quantum of palmolein to be supplied to each ration card holder;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that certain States and Union Territories are not supplying palmolein to ration card holders in cities, towns and rural areas on uniform basis; and

(f) if so, the reasons thereof and which are such States and Union Territories ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI
H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) States/Union Terri-
tories give total demand for imported edible
oil in an oil year. For the oil year 1986-87
(November-October) State-wise demand for
imported edible oil is given in Statement-I
below.

(b) The month-wise allocation of pal-
molein under Public Distribution System in
bulk/bulk packs made to and lifted by
States and Union Territories from April to
October, 1987 is given in Statement-II
below.

(c) and (d) Central Government issued
instructions and guidelines from time to
time to all States/Union Territories regad-
ing the scale of distribution, maximum
consumer price chargeable, and the preven-
tive and punitive measures to be taken
against illegal diversion of imported edible
oils into unauthorised channels.

(e) and (f) The Central Government makes allocation of imported edible oils to States/Union Territories for distribution through Public Distribution System. Further distribution is the responsibility of the State

Governments. The Central Government have no such report that palmolein is not being supplied uniformly to ration card holders in cities, towns and rural areas of certain States Union Territories.

Statement-1

Demand for Oil Year (November-October) 1986-87

S.No.	Name of the States/UTs.	In M. Tonnes
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,01,000
2.	Assam	7,200
3.	Bihar	17,280
4.	Gujarat	2,08,000
5.	Haryana	30,000
6.	Himachal Pradesh	12,000
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	6,000*
8.	Karnataka	1,12,500
9.	Kerala	57,000
10.	Madhya Pradesh	62,000*
11.	Maharashtra	2,30,000
12.	Manipur	5,960*
13.	Meghalaya	8,400
14.	Nagaland	12,000
15.	Orissa	72,000
16.	Punjab	21,600
17.	Rajasthan	14,500
18.	Sikkim	1,800
19.	Tamil Nadu	1,32,000
20.	Tripura	2,736
21.	Uttar Pradesh	19,200
22.	West Bengal	1,86,000
23.	A & N Islands	1,200
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	450
25.	Chandigarh	1,200

26.	D & N Haveli	1,030
27.	Delhi	35,000
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	5,640
29.	Lakshadweep	200
30.	Mizoram	3,000
31.	Pondicherry	7,200

*No demand was received for 1986-87 from the State, Therefore demand for 1986-87 has been taken at the same level as 1985-86.

Statement-II

Statement Indicating the Allocation and Lifting of Palmolein to States/U.Ts Under PDS in Bulk/Bulk Packs from April to October, 1987.

Month	Allocation	(Qty. in M. Tonnes)
		Lifting
April, 1987	27030	20341
May, 1987	23000	23473
June, 1987	28230	26196
July, 1987	31840	32672
August, 1987	71070	43733
September, 1987	96150	70856
October, 1987	106260	100768

Delhi Telephone Advisory Committee

3645. SHRI PRATAP RAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Telephone Advisory Committee has been constituted ;

(b) if so, when this was constituted and the particulars of members of the Committee ;

(c) whether any honorarium will be paid to the members of the Committee and if so, the quantum thereof ;

(d) the tenure of present Committee ;

(e) the functions of the Committee ;

(f) the facilities provided to members of the Committee ; and

(g) the criteria for selection of members of the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi Telephone Advisory Committee has been reconstituted on 24.06.87. Particulars of members of this Committee are given in the Statement-I below.

(c) No, Sir, Members of a Telephone Advisory Committee are entitled only to get actual conveyance allowance, subject to a maximum of Rs. 50/-, for attending the meeting of the Committee.

(d) The tenure of the Committee is upto 30.06.1989.

(e) Functions of the Telephone Advisory Committee are given in Statement-II below.

(f) A member is provided with a rent-free telephone connection on out-of-turn basis, during the tenure of his membership. 1200 free calls are allowed bimonthly.

(g) The nominated member shall normally be residing in the geographical jurisdiction of a Telephone Advisory Committee. The Head of the Telephone District recom-

mends Suitable names to represent various interests.

Recommendations for Members of Parliament are obtained from Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The recommendations thus received are considered along-with other names directly received in Telecom. Directorate for nomination to the Advisory Committee.

Statement I

Particulars of Members of Delhi Telephone Advisory Committee

Sl. No.	Name of Addresses	Sl. No.	Name of Addresses
1.	Shri I. J. Talwar, Secretary (Co-ordination). Delhi Administration, Delhi.	9.	Smt. Sunderwati Nawal Prabhakar, MP Lok Sabha, C-82, Kirti Nagar New Delhi-110015.
2.	Shri V. P. Khullar, Member of Metropolitan Council, D-1/26, Model Town, Delhi.	10.	Shri Shamim Ahmed Siddique, MP Rajya Sabha, 26, Western Court, New Delhi-110001.
3.	Dr. S. C. Vats, Member Metropolitan Council, D-10, C. C. Colony, Opp. Rana Pratap Bagh, Delhi.	11.	Shri Shammi Narang, 90-D, K. S. Marg, New Delhi-110001.
4.	Shri Gurbax Singh, Member Metropolitan Council, 124/1, Than Singh Nagar, Gali No.3. Anand Parbat, New Delhi-110005.	12.	Shri K. L. Nandan, Editor, Nav Bharat Times, H-7, Jungpur Extension, New Delhi.
5.	Shri Prem Chander Kaushik H. No. 36. Nangloi Extension-I, Delhi.	13.	Shri Pankaj Sharma, Senior Staff Correspondent, Nav Bharat Times, New Delhi.
6.	Shri R. Chandramohan, IAS Secretary, New Delhi Municipal Committee, Palika Kendra, Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110001.	14.	SHRI R. K. Goswami, 25/30, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi.
7.	Shri Rajinder Malik, A-360, Defence Colony, New Delhi.	15.	Shri Naveen Shorey, Chief Editor, Milap New Delhi.
8.	Shri Bharat Singh, MP Lok Sabha, 35, North Avenue, New Delhi-110001.	16.	Shri Harbhajan Singh, President, All India Small & Medium Newspaper Federation, 26-F, Councnaught Place, New Delhi.
		17.	Dr. Subhash Chander Bansal, D-131, Panchsheel Enclave, New Delhi-17.

18. Dr. Roshan Lal,
3, Malona Marg,
New Delhi-21.
19. Dr. S. K. Zutshi, Member,
Board of Homoeopathic System of
Medicine,
C-22, Nizammuddin East,
New Delhi.
20. Shri Rajender Jain, Advocate
348, Lawyers Chamber,
High Court New Delhi.
21. Shri D. R. Lakhani, Advocate,
A-6/15, Krishna Nagar,
Delhi.
22. Shri Prit Pal Singh Sahney,
1439, Gopal Street,
Paharganj, New Delhi.
23. Shri R. N. Mittal, Advocate
241, Lawyers Chamber,
Delhi High Court,
New Delhi.
24. Shri D. R. Shah, MD,
Nirankari Flour & Vegetable Oil
Industries (P) Ltd.,
Jamna House, 10203, Padam
Singh Road, Karol Bagh, New
Delhi.
25. Smt. Sushila Jarmani Dass,
3-A, Man Singh Road,
New Delhi.
26. Dr. (Miss), Sujhar Mahdi,
Prof. Deptt. of Urdu,
University of Jamia Milia.
Delhi.
27. Shri Devendra K. Tyagi,
Advocate, 222. Sidharth Enclave,
New Delhi.
28. Dr. R. L. Arora,
2157, Rani Bagh, Delhi.
29. Shri R. K. Sarin,
Blue Star Ltd.,
New Delhi.
30. Shri Kewal Puri,
V-16, Green Park Extn.
New Delhi.
31. Shri J. D. Sharma,
A-14, G. T. Road,
Jhilmil Industrial Area,
Shahdra, Delhi.
32. Shri C. R. Gupta,
E-206 Greater Kailash-II,
New Delhi.-48
33. Shri Mahendra Pal Sharma,
6, Panchkuian Road,
New Delhi.
34. Shri J. R. Jindal,
561-G. T. Road, Shahdra,
Delhi.
35. Shri Dilip Tawadey,
C-29, Niti Bagh, New Delhi.
36. Shri Maheshwar Dayal,
President, United Chamber of
Trade, Association, 5557,
Katra Rathi, Amir Chand Marg,
Delhi.
37. Smt. Dolly Singh,
77/1, Krishna Nagar,
Road No. 3, B-3/91,
Opp. Safdarjang Enclave,
New Delhi.
38. Shri Pushpinder Singh,
10158, Abdul Aziz Road,
Karol Bagh, New Delhi.
39. Shri Gurnam Singh,
H-6, Ashok Vihar Phase-I,
New Delhi.
40. Shri Jai Prakash Gupta,
7/12, East Patel Marg,
New Delhi.
41. Dr. (Mrs) Prabha Manchanda,
Delhi Clinic, Ring Road,
New Delhi.
42. Shri Tejwant Singh,
Leader of Panthic Party,
Delhi S. G. P. C. Delhi.
43. Shri O. P. Saraf,
3-B. Rajendra Park, New Delhi,
44. Dr. Sudhir Kumar Soni,
31/6, East Patel Nagar,
New Delhi.

45. Shri Iqbal Bharti
1307, Zeenat Mahal,
Farsh Khana, Delhi.
46. Shri Shailesh Kumar Prabhakar.
A-32, Subhadra Colony,
Sarai Rohilla, Delhi.
47. Dr. (Prof.) Sukhbir Singh,
6/370, Brahman Gali,
Vishwash Nagar. Shahdara, Delhi.
48. Shri Baldev Singh,
H.No.452, Pana Odyan, Narela,
Delhi.
49. Shri Tinkle Bindra,
25-Ring Road, Lajpat Nagar IV
New Delhi,
50. Shri Suresh Yadav,
69, Jawala Hari, Paschim Vihar,
Delhi.
51. Shri Shashi Kapila.
25/16, Punjabi Bagh Estn.
New Delhi.
52. Shri Chattar Singh,
1806, Jorbagh, Trinagar,
Delhi.
53. Smt. Nirmala Jain,
C-5, Maharani Bagh, New Delhi.
54. Shri Haroon Yusuf,-
2164, 1st Floor, Jhata Kaley Sahib
Gali Ballimaran, Delhi.
55. Shri O. P. Wason,
K-4, Sujan Singh Park, Khan
Market, New Delhi.
56. Shri Kajod Mal,
H.No.409, Shiv Gali, Punjabi
Bazar, Kotla Mubarakpur,
New Delhi.
57. Jathedar Rachpal Singh,
516, Mukherjee Nagar,
Delhi-110009.
58. Shri Achelal Balmiki,
Ex-MP (RS), Working President,
All India Balmiki Mahasabha,
35, South Avenue, New Delhi.
59. Shri Praveer Bagchi,
Organising Secretary, All India
Congress
Seva Dal (I), 19, Lodhi Estate,
New Delhi-3.
60. Shri C. C. Bansal,
Shah Bhavan, 2, Chemelian Road,
Delhi.
61. Shri Bhisham Kohli,
6/ 0, Pratap Nagar, Jangpura Extn.
New Delhi-110001 .
62. Shri Prem Prakash Chauhan,
President Akhila Bhartiya
Sanskritik Chetak Sanstha,
4212, Rampura, Lawrence
Road, Delhi-35.
63. Shri Ghanshyam Das Gupta
A-21, Rama Road, Adarsh
Nagar, Delhi.
64. Shri Vinod Dukhiya,
F-27, Ashok Vihar, Delhi.
65. Shri Surat Singh Yadav,
137, Rishi Nagar,
Main Bazar, Rani Bagh,
Delhi,
66. Mrs. M. Sinha,
181, North Avenue,
New Delhi.
67. Shri Vinod Singal,
Delhi.
68. Shri Brij Mohan Rawat,
Delhi.
69. Shri Zia-ul-Haq Soz,
Delhi.
70. Shri Jagjit S. Kandhari,
No. 485-Sant Nagar (East of
Kailash), New Delhi.
71. Shri Kailash Tuli,
93-Krishna Street,
Paharganj, New Delhi.
72. Shri Krishan Swarup Sharma,
Chairman, Youngmen's
Welfare Organisation,
101, North Avenue,
New Delhi.

Statement-II**Functions of the Telecom/Telephone Advisory Committees.**

- (a) Monitoring the performance of telecommunication services and advising the Department for their improvement ;
- (b) Bringing the telephone using public and the Department of Telecommunications into closer relationship.
- (c) Giving the public confidence that their grievances are being properly represented as well as attended to ;
- (d) Giving publicity to the action being taken by the Department for improving and developing the telephone service ;
- (e) Assisting the Department in handling the shortages in telephone equipment and lines by invoking cooperation and patience from public ; and
- (f) Assisting the Department in deciding out-of-turn connections as provided in the rules on a fair and equitable basis by joint assessment of the comparative merits of various applicants in the waiting list under the 'OYT' and NON OYT' Special' categories.

Working of Fair Price Shops in Delhi

3646. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI:
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for allotment of Fair Price Shops and SKO dealerships in Delhi ;

(b) whether it is a fact that 90 percent Fair Price Shops do not have stock of essential commodities on Sundays and other holidays ;

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken to ensure supply of essential commodities on all days ;

(d) whether the Circle staff has some responsibility to avert such situation in their respective areas ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ;

(f) the working hours of Fair Price Shops and SKO dealers in Delhi during a week ; and

(g) the scale of distribution of food items, sugar and kerosene in Delhi per fortnight ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The criteria adopted by Delhi Administration for allotment of fair price shops and SKO dealership in Delhi is given in Statement-I below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of the reply to (b) above, question does not arise.

(d) and (e) According to information received from Delhi Administration, Circle staff watches the availability of specified articles at fair price shops daily and sends availability reports to Zonal Officers who make efforts to ensure that the FPSs. holders submit indents, obtain authority letters and deposit drafts to FCI/Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation in time. In case of delay at FCI/DSCSC level, Food & Supply Officers take up the matter with Zonal Officers who in turn try to get the supplies expedited by contacting their officer at appropriate level. In case of any eventuality of delayed supplies due to unavoidable circumstances, the Area Inspector transfers specified articles from one fair price shop to another so that these are available to the food card holders.

(f) Working timings as intimated by Delhi Administration are as under :-

9.00 A. M. to 1.00 P. M. and

3.00 P. M. to 7.00 P. M. with a weekly off on Wednesday.

(g) The scale of distribution of food items, sugar and kerosene, in Delhi per fortnight is given in Statement II below.

Statement-I

A fair price shop is allotted for every 3,500 Cereal Unit and a S.K.O. Depot is allotted for 1200 Food Cards. An application for allotment should fulfil the following conditions :-

- (i) He should be in legal possession of the business premises.
- (ii) The business premises should normally be of prescribed size and accessible by heavy vehicles.

Fair Price Shop 5 Mts X3Mts.
X3 Mts.

S.K. Oil Depot—4X3X3 Mts.

- (iii) He should have a sound financial position.

(iv) He should be literate enough to carry on the business in accordance with the instructions of the Department.

(v) He or any member of his family should not have had any interest in an existing or cancelled FPS or other PDS outlets.

(vi) He should not have been convicted under E.C. Act or any Order made thereunder DISI Delhi Sales Tax Act or any other heinous Crime,

(vii) The applicant should not be the owner of an Atta Chakki or any other establishment concerning specified articles and there should not be any Atta Chakki or such establishment in the adjacent shop/premises, in case of a FPS.

Statement-II

Scale of distribution of food items and sugar per fortnight is as under :-

	Wheat eater Card	Rice eater Card
	-----	-----
Wheat	5 kg. per cereal unit.	2.5 Kg. per cereal unit
Rice	1.25 Kg. P.C. unit.	4 Kg. per C. Unit.
Sugar	400 Gram per sugar Unit.	

Scale of issue of K. Oil is as under :-

- (i) Card holder using LPG-5 Litres per Month.
- (ii) Other card holder: upto 5 sugar units-6 litres

6	„	„	7	-do-
7	„	„	8	-do-
8	„	„	9	-do-
9	„	„	10	-do-
10 & above			11	-do-

Microwave System in Karimganj District

3647. SHRI SUDARSAN DAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to extend the Microwave system to Karimganj district;

(b) if so, when it is expected to start; and

(c) whether Government have any plan to sanction and declare the Karimganj and Cachar district as Unit free Zone for treating all trunk calls as local calls within this area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The UHF Radio system between Karimganj-Silchar is working since November, 1985. The UHF system has ample capacity to meet the requirements of traffic between Karimganj and Silchar. Therefore, there is no plan at present to replace the UHF system by a narrow band microwave system.

(c) No, Sir.

Closure of Ashok Paper Mills

3648. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Ashok Paper Mill in Assam has been closed since 1983 ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to restart the mills ; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Financial Institutions, in consultation with the Central Government and the State Government, are engaged in working out modalities for re-opening of the mill. Feasibility report for revival and rehabilitation of the Jogighopa unit of the mill located in Assam has been requisitioned by the State Government through a Consultant appointed for this purpose. A report has also been commissioned by the Financial Institutions on the question of division of assets and liabilities of the Jogighopa and Rameshwarnagar units of the mill located in Assam and Bihar respectively. Further action of the revival and rehabilitation of Ashok Paper Mill would be possible after the views of the State Government on the various aspects connected therewith become available.

[Translation]

Manufacture of Fuel Saving Devices

3649. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. Univalve Distributors Corporation, Canada, have submitted a proposal to Government to manufacture the fuel saving devices in the country for their installation in the cars ;

(b) if so, whether this Canadian firm had contacted the Petroleum Conservation Research Association, Delhi to obtain test certificates ;

(c) if so, whether this device has been found suitable on test ; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to grant permission to this firm for the production of this device in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) and (b) No application has been received from any Indian party of grant of a licence for the manufacture of fuel saving devices for cars in collaboration with M/S, Univalve Distributors Corp., Canada. However, M/s ESJAY Associates of Madras on behalf of M/s, Univalve Distributors Corp., of Canada have approached Petroleum Conservation Research Association to evaluate "UNICURVE VALVES" with a view to establish its feasibility in Indian conditions.

(c) The Petroleum Conservation Research Association is examining the claims of the foreign party and no test and evaluation results are yet available.

(d) It is premature to indicate any firm view of the Govt. in the matter.

[English]

Manufacture of Small Tractors

3650. KUMARI D.K. THARA DEVI : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) where there is any proposal to manufacture small tractors which would be viable for small farmers ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) and (b) At present most of the leading manufacturers of tractors viz. HMT, Eicher Tractors Ltd., Punjab Tractors Limited, Escorts Limited, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., VST Tillers Tractors Limited are manufacturing small tractors which are viable for small farmers. As per the present policy of the Government the existing manufacturers can produce any range of tractors within their licenced capacity.

[Translation]

Supply of Additional Quality of Coal to Power Houses of Madhya Pradesh

3651. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the three major power houses of Madhya Pradesh have been set up near coal mines :

(b) whether coal supply in two major power houses, Satpura Thermal Power House, Sarni and Korba West Coast Power House, Korba is unsatisfactory although three power houses have been located at pit-heads of these coal mines ;

(c) whether due to lesser supply and inferior quality of coal, the installed capacity is not being fully utilised ;

(d) whether Union Government propose to make immediate arrangements to supply additional quantity of coal to Satpura and Korba West Power Stations so that these power stations are able to generate requisite quantity of power and supply adequate electricity to the Industry and agriculture ; and

(e) whether Government propose to supply additional quantity of coal to major power houses of the State as per their requirements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No loss of generation has been reported from the Satpura thermal station (also called the Sarni thermal

station) and the Korba West Thermal station due to shortage of coal. On 25.11.1987 the coal stocks at the Satpura and Korba-West thermal stations were 39,931 and 13,957 tonnes respectively, Satpura station is designed for 'E' & 'G' grades of coal and is getting E & F grades of coal while the Korba-West station is designed for F & G grades of coal and supplies are of G grade coal.

(d) and (e) The coal supply position is being monitored closely and supply of coal to the Satpura and West Korba stations is being augmented by the Western Coal Fields Ltd. and South-Eastern Coal Field Ltd. The M.P. Electricity Board has also been advised to improve their off-take of coal for these stations.

[English]

Allocation of Foodgrains, Edible Oil and Sugar to Gujarat

3652. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to raise the quota of foodgrains to drought prone States for distribution in relief camps; and

(b) if so, the quantity and value of the different varieties of foodgrains, edible oil and sugar allotted to Gujarat for distribution in relief camps and for public distribution system during 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Allocations of wheat and rice at reasonable levels have been made to the various States under public distribution system as well as for drought/calamity relief.

(b) Allocations for the year 1988 have not become due.

Installation of Telecommunication Equipment by India in Foreign Countries

3653. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries to whom India is helping in the installation of telecommunication equipment ;

(b) what is the volume of work and how it is divided among the Government agencies and Indian private companies ; and

(c) the number of Indians who have got jobs because of the assignments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Ministry of Communications through Telecommunication Consultants India Ltd., (TCIL) is presently helping in the installation of the telecommunication equipment in the following seven countries :

Mozambique

Zimbabwe

Nigeria

Yemen Arab Republic

Saudi Arabia

Oman

Kuwait.

(b) During 1986-87 TCIL achieved a turnover of Rs. 47.8 crores. About 15% of this is accounted for by civil construction work entrusted by TCIL to Indian Private companies.

(c) The number of people employed by TCIL on foreign projects in March 1987 was about 600. During various project private companies employed about 250 persons.

Gas -Based Power Plant in East Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh

3655. SHRI SRIHARI RAO :
SHRI V. SOBHANADREE-
SWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a gas-based power plant in East Godavari District or near Godavari Basin in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time likely by which the plant will be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) A Feasibility Report in regard to setting up a combined cycle gas turbine plant of 150 MW (6X25MW) capacity, at an estimated cost of Rs. 139.14 crores, has been received in the Central Electricity Authority for techno-economic appraisal from the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board (APSEB). The site proposed for this station is near the Central gas collecting station of the ONGC in the outskirts of Narsapur town.

The proposed scheme could be techno-economically appraised after the availability of all inputs, including gas and water, has been confirmed, site details are sorted out and requisite clearances have been obtained.

Central Assistance to Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board

3656. SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of central financial assistance sanctioned to the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the details of central assistance proposed to be given during 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The total amount of central loan assistance sanctioned to the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board during the years 1984-85 to 1986-87 under the Centrally Sponsored Programmes of Inter-State Transmission Lines and Renovation & Modernisation scheme amount to about Rs. 11.35 crores as per details given below :-

Year	Central Loan Assistance (Rs. in crores)
1984-85	Nil
1985-86	4.12
1986-87	6.23

(b) The Central loan assistance proposed to be given to the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board during the financial year 1987-88 is Rs. 12.40 crores as under :-

	Rs. in crores
Inter State Transmission Lines	0.50
Renovation & Modernisation Schemes	11.90
Total	12.40

Capacity Utilisation by Units of Cement Corporation of India

3657. SHRI RAHIM KHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the installed capacities and utilisation of installed capacities of all the units of Cement Corporation of India Limited during the last three years :

(b) the stores and inventories holdings and value thereof in respect of all the units of Cement Corporation of India Limited ; and

(c) the yearly average consumption stores and inventories of each unit in the country for the last three years and details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) Details are given in Statement-I below.

(b) Details are given in Statement-II below.

(c) Details of yearly average consumption of stores and spares by CCI units for the last three years are given in Statement-III below.

Statement I

Capacity Utilisation of C.C.I. Units

(Capacity Utilisation %)

Unit	Installed Capacity (Lakh MT)	1986-87	1985-86	1984-85
Mandhar	3.80	82.5	94.7	95.3
Kurkunta	2.00	85.3	78.8	91.5
Bokajan	2.00	82.2	86.5	88.7
Rajban	2.00	72.6	83.0	94.1
Nayagaon	4.00	67.4	63.8	81.0
Akaltara	4.00	65.1	66.0	69.0
Yerraguntala	4.00	58.7	62.5	68.8
Charkhi Dadri	1.42	103.0	77.7	104.8
Adilabad	4.00	65.4	59.0	58.1

Statement-II*Unit-wise Inventory of Stores & Spares*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Unit	As on 31-3-1987
Mandhar	220.32
Kurkunta	151.89
Bokajan	292.72
Rajban	220.85
Nayagaon	245.75
Akaltara	258.37
Yerraguntla	314.54
Charkhi Dadri	159.23
Adilabad	389.82
Central Stores at Akaltara	189.14

Statement-III*Consumption of Stores and Spares for
last 3 years*

Unit	Consumption (Rs. in lakhs)		
	1986-87	1985-86	1984-85
Mandhar	201.53	200.01	174.89
Kurkunta	119.48	103.64	83.45
Bokajan	152.21	138.70	101.25
Rajban	110.41	127.12	114.66
Nayagaon	205.32	177.93	148.23
Akaltara	293.50	247.06	191.63
Yerraguntla	162.06	160.22	141.23
Charkhi Dadri	59.50	48.35	41.19
Adilabad	171.90	207.46	250.32

Sales of Pharmaceutical Products

3658. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the annual value of sales of pharmaceutical products in the country, how much of this is imported and how much indigenous;

(b) what is the annual value of advertising through TV/AIR/News papers on indigenous items and imported items separately; and

(c) what is the break up thereof in relation to Indian companies/multinational companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c) The details required in the question are not monitored and, therefore, not available.

Fruit Processing Units for Soft Drinks

3659. DR. PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has set up processing units to use fruits for preparation of soft drinks and other fruit products; and

(b) if so, the production of each item during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Government set up a fruit juice bottling plant at Delhi in manufacture fruit drinks. This plant was transferred to Modern Bakeries (India) Ltd. [Subsequently renamed as Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd.] in April 1982, and was commissioned by the Company the same month.

(b) The production figures of each item of fruit drink manufactured by the plant during the years 1984-85 to 1986-87 are given in the statement below.

Statement

Variety	Unit of Measurement	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Packed in Bottles				
Mango	Crates of 4 8 lts	5,09,649	6,40,638	5,97,523
Guava	-do-	7,669	3,089	3,695
Apple	-do-	6,777	1,366	2,331
Pineapple	-do-	12,065	6,065	7,661
Lemon	-do-	4,118	1,180	2,132
Loose Litres				
Mango	Loose Litres	2,17,565	54,408	53,464
Guava	-do-	49,061	7,200	852
Apple	-do-	504	479	35
Pineapple	-do-	7,546	2,690	211
Lemon	-do-	13,690	2,124	—
Orange	-do-	—	—	1,785
Tango-Mango	Litres	—	—	1,426
Pouches				
Mango	10 pouches of 200 ml.	—	5,211	5,050

**Steps to Revamp Engineering Projects
(India) Ltd.**

3660. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Engineering Projects (India) Ltd., is running without a regular Chairman since long;

(b) if so, the time by which Government propose to appoint a new regular Chairman of EPI; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to revamp and reorganise the Engineering Projects (India) Limited, New Delhi to make the organisation a more viable unit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) Action has already been initiated to select a regular Chairman and Managing Director

(c) Various measures such as settlement of claims and outstanding on overseas projects, assisting the company in obtaining more orders, strengthening of monitoring system for timely execution of projects, reduction in costs, etc. have been taken to improve the viability of the company.

**Opening of Petrol Pump at Janpat in Etah,
U.P.**

3661. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether any survey has been done by Government to know the feasibility of opening a petrol pump at Janpat in district Etah (U.P.);

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government propose to allot a petrol pump at Janpat;

(c) if so, by what time applications for the purpose are proposed to be invited; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to conduct a survey for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d) The Oil Industry has not been able to identify any location called "Janpat" in Etah District. Further particulars of the location such as Taluk, Roads, Milestones, etc., are required to facilitate necessary action in this regard.

Allotment of Government Quarters in Departments of Posts and Telecommunications

3662. **SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the erstwhile P & T Department, Telecommunications and Postal side had their own housing pool and Civil Wing was covered under Telecom. Pool without any specific quota;

(b) whether after bifurcation of P & T Department into Department of Telecommunications and Department of Posts, staff attached to the Postal Civil Wing has been deprived of housing quota both in the Postal as well as Telecom. Departments;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore;

(d) how many quarters, category-wise have been allotted to Postal Civil Wing Staff after bifurcation of P&T Department; and

(e) the pool in which Postal Civil Wing staff is proposed to be accommodated in the matter of allotment of Government quarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Orders have already been issued placing the Civil Wing staff of Department of Posts in the Postal Pool for allotment of Quarters.

Setting up of Godowns by FCI

3663. **SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation has a proposal to set up more godowns in different States;

(b) if so, the number of godowns proposed to be constructed in Kerala; and

(c) the places where these are going to be constructed as well as the time by which these will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) and (c) The Food Corporation of India and the Central Warehousing Corporation propose to construct godowns for storage of foodgrains at the following centres in Kerala :

- 1 Thikkodi.
2. Nileshwar.
3. Mavelikara.
4. Karunagapalli.
5. Trichur.
6. Tirur.

7. Tiruvalla.

8. Shertalai.

The time schedule for the completion of these godowns would depend on the availability of suitable land, certain centres and lifting of ban on new starts imposed by the Government in view of the present drought conditions.

Time for Getting Telephone Connection

3664. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the average time one has to wait for getting a telephone connection at present,

(b) whether it is possible to provide telephone connection within a week of applying for the same in the near future, and

(c) if so, the details of the plan in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Average time for providing a telephone connection is around two or three years.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise

Heavy Industries set up in Punjab

3665. SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH WALIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) the number of Heavy Industry Units, set up in the country since 1947 to-date State-wise;

(b) how many Heavy Industry units have been set up in Punjab since 1947;

(c) the reasons for small number of units set up in Punjab; and

(d) the details of units, Government propose to set up in Punjab to cover up this deficiency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) to (d) A statement indicating the quantum of Central Investments in terms of gross block in different States, including Punjab at the end of March, 1986, to give an idea of the flow and disbursement of investments and their growth is given below. Information regarding investments since 1947 to-date, Statewise, is not available. While deciding the locations of Central Public Enterprises, due consideration is given to backwardness of the regions. This is, of course, subject to the over riding consideration of techno-economic feasibility.

Statement

Sl. No	Name of State/Union Territory	Gross Block (Rs. in crores) 1985-86
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5270.50
2.	Assam	3011.03
3.	Bihar	6308.84
4.	Gujarat	2400.29
5.	Haryana	542.69
6.	Himachal Pradesh	326.16
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	83.73
8.	Karnataka	1542.14
9.	Kerala	920.48
10.	Madhya Pradesh	6833.06
11.	Maharashtra	8961.26
12.	Manipur	137.61
13.	Meghalaya	2.66
14.	Nagaland	75.92
15.	Orissa	4070.72

1	2	3
16. Punjab		594.46
17. Rajasthan		715.44
18. Tamilnadu		2943.45
19. Tripura		123.73
20. Uttar Pradesh		3292.14
21. West Bengal		3991.86
22. Andaman & Nicobar		12.18
23. Chandigarh		30.63
24. Delhi		1537.81
25. Goa		27.50
26. Pondicherry		5.93
27. Others & Unallocated		2933.08
Total :		56695.30

Capacity of Power Units of U.P.

3666. SHRI SALEEM I. SHERVANI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names and capacity of various power units including nuclear, hydro and thermal power plants located in U.P. ;

(b) whether each of these units is producing to its full capacity;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to see that these units produce to their optimum capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Name and capacity of power stations in operation in U.P. is given in the Statement-I below.

(b) and (c) The generation from hydro stations is mainly dependent on the availability of water. The plant load factor of thermal stations in U.P. during April to

October, 1987 is given in the Statement-II below. The utilisation of thermal stations depends upon various factors such as plant unavailability due to forced outage and planned maintenance, system load conditions, age of the units etc.

(d) In order to further improve the performance of thermal stations in U.P. various measures are being taken which include implementation of a centrally sponsored Renovation and Modernisation programme at Panki, Obra and Harduaganj thermal stations, assistance to the State Electricity Board in plant betterment programmes as well as in the procurement of spares, supply of requisite quality and quantity of coal, training of personnel etc.

Statement-I

Name and capacity of generating units in Uttar Pradesh as on 24-11-1987

Station	Capacity (MW)
1	2
Thermal	
Obra	1550.0
Panki	284.0
RPH (Kanpur)	65.0
Harduaganj A	90.0
Harduaganj B	450.0
Paricha	220.0
Anpara	420.0
Others	33.5
Total UPSEB (Thermal)	3112.5
Singrauli (NTPC)	2050.0
Total U.P. (Thermal)	5162.5
Hydro	
Rihand	300.0
Obra	99.0
Ram Ganga	198.0

1	2
Mafatila	30.0
Khatima	41.4
Ganga Canal	45.2
Dhakrani	33.8
Dhalipur	51.0
Kulhal	30.0
Chibro	240.0
Khodri	120.0
Chilla	144.0
Muneri Bhali	90.0
Total UPSEB (Hydro)	1422.4
Total UPSEB	
(Thermal + Hydro)	4534.9
Total Uttar Pradesh	
(Thermal + Hydro)	6584.0

Statement-II

*Plant Load Factor of thermal power stations
in U.P. During April to October, 1987*

Name of the Station	PLF (%)
U.P.S.E.B.	
Obra	49.6
Panki	26.7
Harduaganj A	37.6
Harduaganj B & C	43.1
Paricha	26.2
Anpara	51.0
Total UPSEB	44.5
Singrauli STPS	78.4
Total U.P.	55.7

LPG Dealerships in Uttar Pradesh

3667. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether present dealerships of LPG
in each district of Uttar Pradesh are
adequate;

(b) if not, the details of inadequacy in
each district as on 31 October, 1987;

(c) whether complaints have been
received about the insufficiency of the
present set up of LPG dealership in
Hamirpur;

(d) if so, the steps Government propose
to take in the matter;

(e) whether it is a fact that Government
propose to set up some new LPG
dealerships ;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :
(a) and (b) The Oil Industry reviews the
potential available in each market before
framing its LPG Marketing Plan for the
entire country, including UP, and includes
in its annual Marketing Plans the
towns/cities conforming to the criteria
prescribed. Taking into account the
existing LPG distributorships and the ones
proposed under the various Marketing
Plans, it is expected that the distributor-
ships in each district of UP would be
adequate;

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g). Besides the two LPG
distributorships operating in Hamirpur
district—one at Hamirpur and the other
at Rath, the other locations do not offer
adequate potential for setting up of LPG
distributorships there.

**Soft Loan to Andhra Pradesh for Public
Distribution System**

3668. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU :
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount given to Andhra Pradesh as soft loan and other grants to open Fair Shops for distribution of essential commodities during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the soft loan and other grants to Andhra Pradesh from next financial year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c) Financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 18.50 Lakhs for the purchase of 8 mobile vans to be operated as fair price shops, was given to Andhra Pradesh during the last three years. The loan to be sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh during the next financial year would depend on the proposals received from the State Government and the availability of funds.

Procurement of Rice in Andhra Pradesh

3669. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of rice procured from Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise and upto 31st October, 1987; and

(b) the normal procurement target for Andhra Pradesh and how much of it was released back to that State for public distribution during the same period ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a)

(Lakh tonnes)	
Marketing year (Oct.-Sept.)	Quantity of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) procured
1984-85	17.89
1985-86	15.73
1986-87	14.68
1987-88 (upto 31-10-87)	0.03

(b) No rice procurement target is fixed. Procurement in the State, for the Central Pool, is normally expected to be around 15 lakh tonnes a year.

The allotment of rice to Andhra Pradesh from the Central Pool has been as under :—

Year (1st Nov. to 31st Oct.)	Quantity of rice allotted (Lakh tonnes)
1984-85	10.75
1985-86	11.50
1986-87	11.60

Complaints Regarding Non-Working of Telephones in Calcutta

3670. SHRI M.V. CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of subscribers connected with "45" and "49" exchange of Calcutta Telephones have made repeated complaints in connection with the non-working of their telephones for more than two or three months;

(b) whether a group of telephone staff/workers of the exchange are reported to have been indulging into malpractices in the matter of rectification of faults;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the details of telephone numbers that remained dead and inoperative for more than two months in the same exchange; and

(d) the steps being taken to over-haul the particular exchange of Calcutta Telephones and to bring the culprits to book ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Only 18 numbers are faulty as

below :—

(i)		(ii)	
45-3562	45-6872	49-2254	
45-6953	45-5502	49-2977	
45-6042	45-8508	49-1619	
45-3819	45-0854	Fifteen	Three only
45-6901	45-5706	only.	
45-1100	45-3483		
45-9353	45-7562		
	45-0114		

(d) The following steps are being taken

(i) A programme has been made to rectify all the long pending faults by the end of November, 1987

(ii) 220 numbers of electronic Directors have recently been installed to replace the strowger Directors of 45 strowger exchanges

(iii) Replacement of 45 strowger (9900 lines) exchanges by electronic exchange has been approved by the Telecom Board and action is in progress

I.I.T. Technology for Briquetting Plants

3671 SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey on the status of briquetting units in the country conducted by the National Productivity Council (NPC), at the instance of the Directorate of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (DNES), has revealed that the technology seems to have been commercialised without a full scale testing of the system of design and layout and without proper scrutiny of the mechanical integrity of the system and consequently out of 70 odd plants installed, not a single plant was found to work continuously or satisfactorily, and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. This relates to a technology directly commercialised by the IIT without reference to

the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

(b) In order to decide on the best technical ways of using agro-wastes, the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is working out the modus operandi of an R&D pilot plant based on briquetting technology apart from other routes. The establishment of R&D pilot plant on this technology is to be viewed under the rectification programme. The activities related to design engineering, erection, commissioning and evaluation would be included under the R&D pilot plant

Expenditure on Entertainment by Public Sector Corporations

3672 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) The expenditure incurred by public sector corporations and undertaking on official entertainment, unit-wise, during 1986-87;

(b) the cost of entertainment at the residence of the Ministers concerned included in (a) above, if any,

(c) the cost of entertainment at which the Ministers concerned were the Chief guests, and

(d) break-up of (b) and (c) above, unit-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Under the existing instructions public enterprises are authorised to make provision in their annual Budget for incurring expenditure on official entertainment. The rules for incurring the expenditure on entertainment as well as the level of officers who are empowered to incur such expenditure are also laid down by their Board. Figures for the expenditure incurred by the public enterprises on official entertainment during 1986-87, the cost of entertainment at the residence of the Ministers etc. are not readily available.

The efforts involved in collection of this information would be incommensurate with the results sought to be achieved.

Crisis in Salt Industry

3673. SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of edible salt produced and distributed State-wise, during the Seventh Five Year Plan period so far;

(b) the cost of production, average freight-charge and the selling price of salt; and

(c) whether Government are satisfied that there is no crisis in this industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) Statements—I and II showing State-wise production of salt and distribution of edible salt during 1985-1986 and 1987 (Upto September, 30) are given below.

(b) The cost of production of salt varies from place to place depending on

location of work and quality of salt. For instance, in Gujarat it varies from Rs. 35 to Rs. 50 per tonne while in West Bengal it is over Rs. 160 per tonne. The average cost of freight is about Rs. 250 per tonne by rail. The average for selling price of salt ex-factory is Rs. 80 per tonne excluding cost of gunny bags.

(c) There is accumulation of salt due to over production in all major salt producing centres on account of prevailing drought conditions. Some of the steps taken by the Government to stimulate domestic and export demands to ease salt stocks accumulation are :

(i) New industrial units for production of Soda Ash/Caustic Soda have been licensed. The present units have been advised to maximise their production to increase the consumption of salt.

(ii) Fresh assignment of land for salt manufacturing has been kept in abeyance for two years.

(iii) Export of common salt has been decanalised and brought under OGL.

Statement-I

The Statewise Production of Salt Including Edible Salt during the years 1985-86 and 1987 (Upto September)

(Figure in '000 tonnes)

S. Name of the No. State		Production of Salt during the years		
		1985	1986	1987 (Upto September)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gujarat	6281.5	6600.9	6054.7
2.	Tamil Nadu	1558.0	1706.5	1269.8
3.	Rajasthan	1073.8	917.7	647.3
4.	Maharashtra	455.7	384.9	378.4
5.	Andhra Pradesh	377.3	397.2	361.2
6.	Orissa	86.8	64.4	51.5
7.	Karnataka	28.2	24.3	26.1
8.	West Bengal	14.5	13.7	10.1
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4.0	1.7	—

1	2	3	4	5
10. Diu & Daman		4.4	3.9	3.4
11. Pondicherry		0.7	0.3	0.1
Grand Total :		9874.9	10115.5	8802.6
Salt Stock		4744.1	6346.1	9155.1

Statement-II

*The Statewise Distribution of Salt for Edibles Purpose During the years 1985, 1986 and 1987
(Upto September)*

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

S. No.	Name of the State	Distribution of Salt during the years			Remarks
		1985	1986	1987 (Upto Sept.)	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	220.2	240.5	158.6	
2.	Andaman Nicobar	-	0.1	0.1	
3.	Assam	156.6	130.2	95.6	
4.	Bihar	503.9	481.0	304.4	
5.	Gujarat	290.8	328.1	394.9	
6.	Delhi	159.2	162.6	126.0	
7.	West Bengal	403.1	425.3	287.3	
8.	Goa	1.3	1.4	0.6	
9.	Kerala	150.9	156.7	89.1	
10.	Madhya Pradesh	261.5	245.4	152.1	
11.	Maharashtra	347.3	311.0	321.5	
12.	Tamil Nadu	357.5	423.9	282.8	
13.	Karnataka	235.6	195.7	152.9	
14.	Orissa	199.6	208.2	138.9	
15.	Rajasthan	126.6	133.3	99.0	
16.	Punjab	15.7	21.7	21.1	
17.	Uttar Pradesh	606.4	670.6	438.4	
18.	Haryana	27.5	42.3	28.6	
19.	Tripura	18.0	16.6	7.8	
20.	Meghalaya	9.9	9.0	3.3	
21.	Mizoram	3.7			
22.	Sikkim	3.2	3.6	2.3	
23.	Pondicherry	0.7	0.5	0.2	
24.	Manipur	6.0	11.8	4.4	
25.	Arunchal Pradesh	4.6	1.7	2.3	
26.	Nagaland	12.1	4.1	4.4	
27.	Jammu & Kashmir	5.7	14.4	8.9	
28.	Chandigarh	1.5	1.8	3.6	
29.	Himachal Pradesh	7.9	5.0	3.1	
30.	Defence	5.8	5.5	6.1	
31.	Dadra, Nagar Haveli				
32.	Lakshdeep				
Total :		4142.8	4252.0	3138.3	

Release of Commemorative Stamps

3674. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has taken any decision for the release of commemorative stamps to mark the birth centenaries of the following illustrious sons of India during 1988 viz. (i) Shri C.V. Raman, Eminent Scientist, (ii) Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Second President of India; and (iii) Shri Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad, First Education Minister of India;

(b) if so, the likely dates on which stamps would be released; and

(c) if not, whether any decision would be taken in this regard at an early date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Government has decided to release stamp on Shri Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad to mark his birth centenary. No decision has been taken yet in respect of S/Shri Radhakrishnan and C.V. Raman. However, a stamp each on Dr. S. Radhakrishnan and C.V. Raman has been issued on 5-9-1967 and 21-11-71 in the denominations of 15 paise and 20 paise respectively.

(b) and (c) A stamp on Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad is proposed to be released either in 1988 or 1989. The proposals in respect of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan and Shri C.V. Raman will be placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee for consideration at its next meeting.

Mail Delivery in Killar Area of Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh

3675. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Killar area of Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh has received no Mail after 8th October, 1987 thus accounting for absence of postal delivery for a month; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this lapse and the steps taken to achieve regular Mail delivery ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected, and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Installation of Digital Microwave System

3676. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1452 on 26 November, 1985 regarding plans for improvement in telecommunication and state :

(a) the actual number of Kilometers of Digital Microwave System installed in the country during the first half of the Seventh Five Year Plan (upto 30 September, 1987) and also the number of lines of digital exchanges commissioned during this period out of seventy one thousand lines proposed for the Plan; and

(b) the details of the commissioning and installations, circle-wise as on 30 September, 1987 and the outline of the programmes sanctioned for installation and commissioning in this regard in the remaining half of the Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) 400 route Kms. of Digital Microwave System have been commissioned during the 1st half of the Seventh Plan.

90200 lines of the digital Exchanges have also been commissioned in the same period.

(b) (i) Details of the Digital Microwave routes commissioned upto 30-9-87 in 7th plan are given in Statement-I below.

(ii) Details of the Digital Microwave Scheme sanctioned for Installation and commissioning for the remaining half of the 7th plan are indicated in Statement-II below.

(iii) Details of the Digital local Exchanges commissioned upto 30-9-87 are given in Statement-III below.

(iv) Details of the Digital Exchanges to be commissioned in the remaining half of the 7th plan are available in Statement-IV below.

Statement-I*Details Microwave Route commissioned during first half of Seventh Plan upto 30-9-87*

	<i>Route</i>	<i>Kms.</i>	<i>Date</i>
1. Maharashtra State			
Prabhadevi-Kalwa, New Bombay	—	31	1-11-85
2. Karnataka State			
Bangalore-Hasan	—	180	20-1-86
Hasan-Chickmagalur		60	10-10-86
3. Gujarat State			
Jamnagar-Gandhidham	—	90	23-3-86
4. West Bengal State			
Calcutta T.B.-57	—	7	24-9-87
Calcutta 77-47	—	6	22-7-87
Calcutta 58-52		8	22-6-87
Calcutta TB-52 Ex	—	6	12-6-86
Calcutta 47-72	—	4	25-6-87
5. Delhi State			
Laxminagar-Noida, Luxmi Nagar	—	8	2-9-87

— — — — —
400 Kms
— — — — —

Statement-II*Details of Digital Microwaves schemes sanctioned for Installation and commissioning for the remaining half of the 7th Plan***Northern Project Circle**

- 1 Mussorie-Dehradun
- 2 Bareilly-Bhit.
- 3 Agra-Ferozabad
- 4 Agra-Mainpuri.
- 5 Jalandhar-Kapurthala
- 6 Jodhpur-Nagaur
- 7 Simla-Mandi (Replacement)
- 8 Gwalior-Morena

- 9 New Delhi-Gurgaon (Replacement)

- 10 New Delhi-Rewari (-do-)

11. New Delhi-Sonapat (-do-)

12. Mussorie-Muzaffar Nagar
(Replacement)

13. Rewari-Alwar (Replacement)

Western Project Circle

- 1 Rajpur-Dhamtari-Jagdalpur.
2. Rajkot-Morvi
3. Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar.
(Replacement)
4. Indore-Ujjain (Replacement)
5. Panjim-Margao (Replacement)

6. Kondla-Bhuj (Replacement)
7. Jabalpur-Narsingpur
8. Poona-Ratnagiri
9. Poona-Baramati-Phalton
10. Rajkot-Junagarh-Manavdar
11. Bhavnagar-Patod
12. Bombay-Panjim (Add on Chl.)
13. Dhulia-Nagpur („)
14. Nagpur-Raipur-Sambalpur (Add on Chl.)
15. Raipur-Durg (Replacement)
16. Manavdar-Porbandar (Replacement)
17. Manvadar-Verval (Replacement)

Southern Project Circle

1. Chikmagalur-Shimoga
2. Mangalore-Bangalore
3. Hyderabad-Warangal (Replacement)
4. Kodakanal-Theni („)
5. Vijaiwara-Tenali (Replacement)
6. Madras-Panjim (Bombay) Add on Chl.
7. Coimbatore-Kodarkanal (Replacement)
8. Hassan-Arsekere-Madurai
9. Calicut-Cannanore (Replacement)
10. Belgaum-Guntekal
11. Tenali-Guntur (Replacement)
12. Calicut-Coimbatore (Replacement)
13. Mysore-Ooty („)
14. Tirunelveli-Kottayam
15. Tadepaligudam-Palladi
16. Tadepaligudam-Bhimavaram.

Eastern Project Circle

1. Lucknow-Barabanki
Faizabad-Gonda
2. Asansol-Singharsi

3. Cuttack-Bhubneshwar
4. Darjeeling-Gangtok
5. Bolangir-Sambalpur
6. Sambalpur-Raurkela (Replacement)
7. Calcutta-Sambalpur (Add on Chl.)
8. Sambalpur-Nagpur (Add on Chl.)
9. Lucknow-Raibareilly-Allahabad
10. Muzaffarpur-Samastipur (Replacement)
11. Raigarh-Sambalpur (Replacement)
12. Muzaffarpur-Darbhanga (Replacement)
13. Dhanbad-Bokara (Replacement)
14. Silchar-Aizwal (Replacement)

North Eastern Project Circle

1. Jorhat-Kohima-Imphal
2. Jorhat-North-Lakhimpur

Digital Microwave Scheme for commissioning during remaining half of the 7th Five Year Plan in Calcutta Telephone for junction working

1. TB 2-Shibpore
2. TBZ-Kalighat
3. TBZ-Cossipore
4. T. Bhawan-Cossipore
5. Behala-Budge Budge
6. Dum Dum-Barasat
7. Shibpore-Andhul
8. Serampore-Chinsura
9. TBZ-Serampore
10. Chandannagar-Tribeni
11. T. Bhawan-Airport
12. TBZ-Dum Dum Exchange
13. T. Bhawan-Ballygunge
14. TBZ-Ballygunge
15. T. Bhawan-Alipore.

Digital Microwave Schemes for commissioning during remaining half of 7th Five Year Plan in Madras Telephone for junction working

1. Chromepet-Ashoknagar
2. Nungambakkam-Anna Nagar
3. Nungambakkam-Mandaveli
4. Avadi-Ambattur
5. Annanagar-Ambattur
6. Central-Annanagar
7. Central-Mandaveli
8. Ashok Nagar-Nungambakkam.

Digital Microwave Scheme for commissioning during remaining half of the 7th Five Year Plan in Delhi Telephone for junction working

1. Janpath-Palam
2. Janapath-Shahdara(S)
3. Janpath-Shaktinagar
4. Badli-Shaktinagar
5. Shaktinagar-Alipore
6. Shaktinagar-Narela

7. Janpath Rajouri Garden
8. Najafgarh-Rojouri Garden
9. Ghaziabad-Shahadara(S).

Digital Microwave Scheme for commissioning during remaining half of 7th Five Year Plan in Bombay Telephone for junction working

1. Prabhadevi-Aarey
2. Malad-Kandivili
3. Aarey-Goregaon
4. Aarey-Malad
5. Borivli-Bhyander
6. Aarey-Mulund
7. Malabar-Hill-Vileparle
8. Mankhund-Mulund
9. Kondivili-Borivli
10. Malabar Hill-Fountain
11. Mankhund-Turbhe
12. Prabhadevi-Mankhund
13. Vileparle-Goregaon.

Statement-III

Details of Digital local exchanges commissioned upto 30-9-87

S. No	State	Name of station	Lines
1	2	3	4
1.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	8000
		Ahmedabad (Railway Pura)	10000
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Arnoor	400
		Kothagudam	600
		Ramachandrapuram	400
		Secundrabad	1000
		Hyderabad (Saifabad)	10000
3.	Karnataka	Bajpe	400
		Yelwal	400
		Bangalore (Malleshwaram)	4000

1	2	3	4
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Dhar	400
		Balaghat	600
		Guna	600
		Shivpuri	600
5.	Assam	Half long	600
6.	Mizoram	Lungleh	400
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Hamirpur	400
		Kulu	600
8.	Punjab	Pathankot	3000
9.	Orissa	Keonjhar	600
		Dhenkonai	600
		Chattarpur	400
10.	Rajasthan	Siriganganagar	3000
		Dungarpur	400
		Tonk	400
		Jhunjhnu	600
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur (Lajpat Nagar)	10000
		Pithoragarh	400
		Orai	400
		Sultanpur	600
		Ranikhet	400
12.	West Bengal	Calcutta Central I	10000
		Sainthia	400
		Calcutta Central II	10000
		Calcutta Telephone Bhavan	10000
13.	Kerala	S.L. Puram (Vaikam)	400
		Cochine	400
		Kalpetta	600
		Mannar	400
14.	Tamil Nadu	Tambram	400
		Madras (Flower Bazar)	10000
15.	Maharashtra	Bombay (Khar)	5000
		Bombay (Marol)	10000
		Bombay (Cooperage)	10000

1	2	3	4
		Bombay (Wadala)	10000
		Bombay (Worli)	10000
		Bombay (Ghatkopar)	5000
16.	Delhi	Rajouri Garden	12400
		Shakti Nagar	12400
		Lakshmi Nagar	15000
		Okhla	11000
		Nehru Place	1000
		IGIA	500

Statement-IV

Details of Digital Exchanges to be commissioned in the remaining half of 7th Plan

S. No	States	Station	Lines
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Bhadrachalem	500
		Tadipalari	700
		Hyderabad (Secundrabad-IV)	9000
		Hyderabad (Sarfabad Expn)	6000
		Hyderabad (Secundrabad)	
		RLU at Jeedinetla	1000
		Vishakhapatnam	5000
2.	Bihar	Gulab bagh	400
		Sitamarhi	800
		Dumka	400
		Hajipur	400
		Madhubani	400
		Nawadah	400
		Purnia	600
3.	Karnataka	Jamkhendi	500
		Kumta	600
		Typtur	1000
		Bangalore-Malleswaram-Ii	6000

1	2	3	4
		Bangalore-Malleswaram Expn.	3000
		Bangalore City-I	10000
		Bangalore-Ulsoor	4000
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Jhabua	400
		Rewa	1200
		Sidhi	400
		Pethampur (Dhar)	400
		Chindwara	1000
		Jagdalpur	800
		Betul	400
		Datia	400
		Khargone	400
		Mandla	400
		Shajapur	400
		Tikamgarh	400
		Ambikapur	600
		Bhind	600
		Bhopal	4000
		Bhopal Expansion	4000
		Raipur	3000
		Raipur Expansion	3000
5.	Maharashtra	Pravaranagar	400
		Mahad	500
		Manmad	600
		Dhatav	400
		Gadchiroli	400
		Pune Mahajide Shinde	6000
		Pune-Hadapsar	4000
6.	Mizoram	Aizwal	1500
7.	Assam	Karimganj	1000
		Hailakandy	400
		Diphu	400
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itnagar	400

1	2	3	4
9.	Haryana	Badarpur	2000
		Palwal	900
		Samalsha	700
10.	Punjab	Sanewal	500
		Goraya	700
		Amritsar (Albert Road)	5000
11.	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur	400
		Nahan	400
		Una	400
		Chamba	600
12.	Rajasthan	Makrana	1100
		Nahaur	900
		Jalore	400
		Jaisalmer	400
		Jhalawar	400
		Sawai Madhopur	400
		Sirohi	400
		Bundi	600
13.	Tamil Nadu	Guddalore	400
		Gumidipoondi	600
		Maramalin Nagar	400
		Ranipat	600
		Tuticorin port trust	400
		Sivaganga	400
		Madras Flower Bazar	5000
		Madras Harbor-II	10000
14.	Uttar Pradesh	Baraut	900
		Khurja	1000
		Fatehpur	400
		Sikandrabad	500
		Gazipur	400
		Lalitpur	400
		Pauri	400
		Banda	600

1	2	3	4
		Noida (Surajpur)	400
		Gaziabad-III	4000
		Kanpur (Lajpat Nagar Expn.)	5000
		Noida	4000
15.	Gujarat	Kodinar (Khaira)	400
		Ahmedabad (39)	8000
		Ahmedabad (Naranpura)	7000
16.	J & K	Kathua	3000
17.	Kerala	Ernakulam	3000
18.	Orissa	Koraput	400
		Phulbani	400
		Sundergarh	400
		Baripada	600
		Bhubneshwar	4000
19.	West Bengal	Alipurduar	600
		Falta	400
		Calcutta (Sibpur)	4000
		Calcutta (Kalighat)	10000
		Calcutta (Jadavpur)	10000

Quality Circles

3677. SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the functioning of "Quality Circles" is satisfactory; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of the scheme are contained in the statement given below.

Statement

SUBJECT : Constitution of Quality Circles—There shall be a Quality Circle formed in all offices or group of offices

headed by an officer in gazetted Group B or higher level, for example, an Assistant Engineer, a Sub-Divisional Officer, a Superintendent of Telegraph Traffic, an Accounts Officer, etc. This will cover offices in all branches, namely Telegraph Traffic, Telephone Exchanges, Trunk Exchanges, Telex Exchanges, Transmission Stations, Administrative Offices and other similar units in the Department of Telecommunications.

Quality Circles may also be formed at a later date at smaller units headed by the supervisory grades in Group 'C', for example, Junior Engineers, Assistant Superintendents of Telegraph Traffic, Junior Accounts Officers, etc.

2. Objectives of Quality Circles—The main objectives of the Quality Circles will be to focus and achieve a higher quality of service to the customers through active

involvement of workers and to promote greater job satisfaction among the staff.

3. Functions of the Quality Circle—The main functions of the Quality Circle will be—

- (i) to review the quality of service rendered to the customers in all its aspects, e.g.
 - Fault rates
 - call success rates
 - time to repair a fault
 - delay in trunk calls
 - trunk effective percentage on different routes
 - time to answer an auto-manual services
 - delays in billing
 - billing complaints, etc
 and to evolve suitable strategies for improving the quality;
- (ii) to review and analyse the public complaints and devise solution to remedy the same;
- (iii) to review the financial working of the units and evolve plan of action to improve the same through increase in revenue bearing traffic and reduction in cost;
- (iv) to review and promote higher productivity, reduce absenteeism, and optimise utilisation of manpower;
- (v) to ensure adequate two-way communication between the management and the workers, particularly in regard to fixation of targets of output, performance and quality of work;
- (vi) to identify areas requiring upgradation of individual competence through training;

(vii) to discuss any other matters having a bearing on the improvement of performance and assuring better customer satisfaction; and

(viii) the quality Circles will not be a forum for settlement of individual staff grievances nor will they replace other periodical union/JCM meetings prescribed for setting staff/management problems.

4. Nomination of Representatives to the Quality Circles—Each Quality Circle shall consist of ten members, three from the management including the head of the unit and seven from the workers.

5. The representatives of the management will be nominated by the head of the unit. The Workers' representatives will be drawn in suitable numbers from different groups, namely, technical indoor, technical outdoor, operative/traffic, administrative, accounts, etc. depending on the nature of the unit and the staff employed in different categories. The representatives will be suitably distributed between the supervisory and operative grades in Group 'C' and 'D'.

6. The distribution of the representatives of the staff from different categories will be finalized by the head of the secondary switching areas in consultation with the head of the concerned unit.

7. The representatives of the workers shall be drawn from the volunteers from the respective categories through a process of consensus between the head of the unit and the concerned groups. In absence of consensus, the workers' representatives shall be elected by secret ballot by the members of the concerned categories of staff.

8. The head of the unit will be the ex-officio Chairman.

9. There shall be a Vice Chairman from the representatives of the workers who will be elected by the representatives of the staff among themselves.

10. One of the representatives of the management, other than the head of the

unit, shall be nominated as the Secretary who shall convene the meetings and maintain the necessary records.

11. Term of Membership—A unit Council once formed shall function for a period of two years. Any member nominated or elected to the Quality Circle in the mid-term to fill a casual vacancy shall be a member for the unexpired portion of the term of the Circle.

12. Meetings and Decisions

- (i) The Quality Circle shall meet as frequently as necessary but at least once in a month.
- (ii) All decisions shall be on the basis of consensus and not by a process of voting.
- (iii) Every decision shall be implemented by the parties concerned within a month unless otherwise stated in the decision itself.
- (iv) The management shall make suitable arrangements for the recording and maintenance of minutes of the meeting and designation one of its representatives as Secretary, who shall also report the action taken on the decision at subsequent meetings of the Quality Circle.
- (v) Reports on the proceedings in the meetings of the Quality Circle shall be forwarded also to the Head of the Telecom. District concerned (District Telecom. Engineer, District Manager or General Manager, as the case may be), wherever there is a disagreement or where useful suggestion is likely to have application in other units.
- (vi) Heads of Circles will include a paragraph in their monthly reports to the Directorate summarising useful or important decisions taken in the Quality Circles within their jurisdiction, if these are

expected to have an All India Utility or impact.

Response to Indigenisation of Oil Sector

3678. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in response to the indigenisation drive launched by the Oil & Natural Gas Commission, Government have received and proposals for joint venture and technical collaboration covering the entire spectrum of exploration, drilling and production activities;

(b) if so, the particulars of some of these viable and practicable proposals and the areas selected by the parties concerned; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) and (b) In 1984, the Government had received a proposal from a private company for undertaking a wide spectrum of activities in the field of petroleum including exploration and development of onshore and offshore fields. The party had then evinced interest in onshore Gujarat areas. The party and subsequently proposed the development of Mid-Tapti and South Tapti gas fields also.

(c) This proposal of the party was not agreed to by the Government since, under the present policy, onshore exploration and development of proven onshore and offshore fields is being done by the national oil companies and private sector participation is limited only to specific oil field services.

Report of the Committee on LPG Users

3679. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3473 on 18 August, 1987 regarding better service to LPG consumers and state :

(a) whether the Committee on LPG Users, problems set up by Government in August, 1986 has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are its major recommendations on marketing discipline guidelines and LPG dealers-consumers dealings;

(c) Government's reaction thereon; and

(d) the steps being taken against the erring gas dealers for the various malpractices indulged in by them particularly in the sphere of harassment of the consumers on one pretext or the other ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT)

(a) to (c) The report of the Committee referred to has recently been received by the Government the report has recommended, inter alia, review of the existing Marketing Discipline Guidelines keeping in view the complaints received from the customers in order to make them more effective, opening of Emergency Cells and Complaint Cells in all major LPG marketed towns, institutionalised training for mechanics and delivery boys of the distributors' regular inspection-lif the LPG equipment installed at customers, premises, etc. The recommendations are under consideration.

(d) Complaints received by the oil companies against the distributors are investigated, and wherever necessary appropriate action (ranging from warning letters to termination of distributorships in some cases) is taken against the erring distributors in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Aid from French Government for Telecommunication Projects

3680. **SHRI R.M. BHOYE** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether aid has been sought from French Government for a number of projects including Telecommunication projects for manufacturing electronic switching systems; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Telecommunication have sought and obtained assistance from France for the following projects :

- (i) Supply of 2 lakh equivalent lines of Digital Electronic Telephone Switching systems, and related services (FF 439 Million)
- (ii) Provision of Research & Development Assistance (FF 18 Million)
- (iii) Supply of Electronic Trunk Automatic Exchange, TAX-cum. Subscriber Exchanges, and performance of related services (FF 747 Million)
- (iv) Technical Co-operation and supply of miscellaneous equipments (FF 56 Million)
- (v) Manufacture of 5 lakh lines/annum Digital Electronic Equipments at Mankapur (FF 357 Million)
- (vi) Manufacture of 3000 lines/annum Digital Trunk Automatic Exchange Equipment at Palghat (FF 98 Million)

Capacity for Manufacturing Rifampicin

3681. **SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the present installed capacity for manufacturing Rifampicin;

(b) the production during 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(c) the quantity imported during these two years; and

(d) the reasons for delay in achieving self-sufficiency in the essential drug ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) A capacity of 1231.5 MT has been licensed to various companies by way of Letters of Intent, Delicensing registrations and DGTD registrations.

(b) Production of Rifampicin is not monitored by this Ministry. However, to the extent information is available, 35.97 MT was produced in 1986-87.

(c) During 1985-86 and 1986-87 70.79 MT and 19.81 MT respectively of Rifampicin was imported.

(d) The major reasons are (i) Production of Rifampicin is capital intensive, (ii) Closely held technology and (iii) long gestation period.

Use of Computer in Postal Department

3682. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to use Computers in the Postal Department;

(b) if so, to what use the computers are proposed to be put to, and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Postal Operations involve use of voluminous data in the various sectors of postal, service. With a view to improving quality of service and efficiency of operation Computers are used in selected areas

of postal operation to help manage the data better, including retrieval, analysis and effective use thereof.

(c) The details of areas in which computers are used in some of the Circles of the Department are (a) Money Orders (b) Savings Bank Control and (c) Postal Life Insurance.

Telephone Exchanges in Goa

3683. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new Telephone Exchanges proposed to be set up in Goa during the course of Seventh Plan and progress made with respect to each of them;

(b) the number of telephone exchange being upgraded/modernised and progress with respect to the same;

(c) whether there is any proposal to upgrade several small telephone exchanges in Goa into bigger ones; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to consider a suggestion to that effect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) A statement is given below.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The small exchanges are proposed to be upgraded into bigger ones depending upon availability of demand and feasibility.

Statement
Details of Telephone Exchange Proposed During 7th Plan in Goa.

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange/ Type	Main/Expansion with capacity proposed	Progress
1	2	3	4
1.	Madgaon MAX-I (PRX)	3000 + 1000	3000 lines (Main) Commissioned in March '86. Expansion by 1000 (3000—4000) lines, likely to be commissioned in 1988-89.

1	2	3	4
2. Panaji MAX-I	Expansion (3150-5400) lines.	150 lines (3150-3300) commissioned in 1985-86. Likely to be commissioned 300 lines (3300-3600) in 1987-88. 1200 lines (3600-4800) in 1988-89 and 600 lines (4800-5400) in 1989-90.	
3. Bicholim MAX-II	300 lines (Main)	Likely to be commissioned in 1988-89.	
4. Ponda MAX-II	600 lines (Main)	Likely to be commissioned in 88-89.	
5. Mapuca MAX-II	Expansion 200 lines (800-1000).	Commissioned in 86-88.	
6. Vasco MAX-II	Expansion 200 lines (1500-1700)	Commissioned in 86-87.	
7. Porvorim MAX-II	400 lines (Main)	Commissioned in 87-88.	

About 1000 lines are proposed to be added by expansion of existing MAX-III as well as a new MAX-III exchanges.

Unilever Shareholding in Hindustan Lever Ltd.

3684. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Unilever continue to have majority share holding in Hindustan Lever Limited;

(b) whether the Board of Directors and Management of M/s Hindustan Lever Ltd. are appointed by the Unilever;

(c) whether the Management of M/s Hindustan Lever Ltd. exercises actual control over all Unilever Companies; and

(d) whether Government are considering to ask M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited to bring down its Uniliver holding to 40% less as required under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per Articles of Association of Hindustan Lever Ltd., Unilever plc have no power to nominate any director on the Board of the Company. All directors are elected by the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting.

(b) According to available information, Unilever plc has no subsidiary in India, other than Hindustan Lever Ltd.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration for the present.

Reduction in Import Duty on Normal Paraffin

3685. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. (IPCL) and Tamil Nadu Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. would be benefited by reduction of import duty on normal paraffin from Rs. 10,000 per tonne to something like Rs. 2,500 per tonne;

(b) whether IPCL and TNPCL have

been manufacturing linear Alkyl Benzene by purifying the Kerosene supplied by the Madras Refinery; and

(c) if so, the reasons for permitting Reliance Industries Ltd. to import linear Alkyl Benzene ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Both Indian Petrochemical Corporation Limited and Tamil Nadu Petrochemical Corporation Limited would be benefited by reduction of duty on N-Paraffin to the extent N-Paraffin is imported by them.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, TNPCL is yet to commence production.

(c) Reliance Industries Limited have not been permitted to import Linear Alkyl Benzene.

Reduction of Capacity of Cypermethrin

3686. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether MRTP investigations had estimated 'spare capacity' for Synthetic Pyrethroid, but an application of a Bombay based medium scale Industry for a 100 tonne licence of Cypermethrin (Synthetic Pyrethroid) was turned down on the ground that there was no 'spare capacity' available;

(b) whether, while this medium scale industry was ultimately forced to reduce its Fenvalerate capacity by 50 tonnes, capacity of a multinational company, Rallis India Ltd. for Fenvalerate was permitted expansion by 100 tonnes, despite the earlier contention of no scope for 'additional capacity';

(c) the reasons for forcing a medium scale industry to reduce its capacity while granting substantial expansion for the same product to a multinational company; and

(d) what is the Government's policy in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Subsequent to identification of spare capacity by an Inter-Departmental Committee in 1983 sufficient capacity was sanctioned by the Government on the basis of pending applications at that time. When the application of Bombay based medium scale industry was considered in 1985 the view was taken that as per the sanctioned capacity and estimated demand, further capacity in Synthetic Pyrethroids was not needed.

(b) and (c) As per the standard practice the application of the company was rejected on a preliminary basis and they were requested to submit a representation if they so wished and final orders would be passed after hearing them. The party applied that they would be willing to accept a capacity of 50 tonnes per annum of Cypermethrin within their overall capacity of 150 tonnes of Fenvalerate. This was sanctioned by the Government. Subsequently, about two years later, Rallis India were allowed expansion of their Fenvalerate capacity by 100 tonnes based on the assessment of demand and supply made at that time and the positive policy of the Government to allow further capacity in this field.

(d) Government's present policy is to selectively allow expansion of capacity in Synthetic Pyrethroids and also to allow broad-banding in this field so that companies can produce one or the other of the synthetic pyrethroids within the sanctioned capacity.

Setting up of a New Company to Develop High Technology in Communication Sector

3687. SHRI S.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd. is setting up a new company to develop high technology in the communication sector;

(b) whether TCIL had made impressive performance in 1986-87;

(c) whether successful execution of software-related projects in Netherlands and the United States reinforced the decision for a separate company for software; and

(d) if so, when the decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Department of Telecom. has not received any such proposal from Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd. However, TCIL is exploring the possibilities of setting up a new company to develop high technology in the communication sector

(b) Yes, Sir, The Company earned a net profit of Rs. 53.969 million (before tax) during 1986-87 as against Rs. 42.550 million during 1985-86.

(c) and (d) As mentioned in reply to (a) above, there is no proposal to set up a separate company for software

Shortage of raw material in Small Scale Industries

3688. SHRI Y S. MAHAJAN
SHRI YASWANTRAO GADAKH
PATIL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to acute shortage of raw materials, the tin and metal container industry, which is mostly in the small scale sector, is operating at very low capacities and in on the verge of closure; and

(b) if so, what remedial measures have been taken by Government to ensure availability of raw materials to the tin and metal container industry so that the small scale industries which provide employment to a large number of people in semi-urban and rural areas continue to operate at maximum capacities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No Sir, presently the availability of tin plates to the small scale tin and metal container industries is easy and there is no distribution control on tin plates in the country. Further, tin plate prime (OTS & Non-OTS quality) is channelised for imports through the MMTC and supplied to actual users

The small scale tin and metal container industries can also import directly tin plates waste/waste, and TMPB seconds/all seconds, defectives/cuttings etc., under Supplementary Licensing arrangement.

Technical collaboration with Japan for Manufacturing Railway Signals Equipment

3689. SHRI V TULSIRAM :
CH RAM PRAKASH

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement has been reached with Japan for technical collaboration for manufacturing railway signals equipment,

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the aspects covered therein;

(c) the estimated cost of the project; and

(d) whether the manufacturing establishment is proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh, if so, the location thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) An agreement has been reached between Instrumentation Ltd., Kota and M/s. Kyosan Electric Mfg. Company of Japan for manufacture of Railway Signalling Equipment. The agreement envisages transfer of technical know-how for manufacture of Railway Signalling Equipment as well as Systems.

(c) The preliminary estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 1.5 crores.

(d) The manufacturing activities are proposed to be undertaken in the existing unit at Kota as a diversification scheme to utilise the availability facilities and manpower.

U.S. Financial Aid to India for Food Purchases

3690. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the food supply shortfall caused by the drought in India, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has agreed to provide financial aid for food purchases;

(b) if so, the total aid provided by the USA and how much foodgrains have been purchased;

(c) whether America has also agreed to supply foodgrains to India; and

(d) if so, the total quantity proposed to be supplied ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (d) An Agreement for the supply of 5200 MT of butter oil has been signed between US AID and Commodity Credit Corporation, USA and the Indian Dairy Corporation on 29th September, 1987. The value of this butter oil is estimated to be in the range of Rs. 8-10 crores. Official level discussions are also going on to finalise the details of the offer of assistance received from the US Government for our drought relief programme.

Release of Sugar Quota to States on Quarterly Basis

3691. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that great hardship is caused due to monthly release of sugar quota;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to release sugar quota in quarterly basis to States in order to keep the minimum national buffer of at least 1.5—202 million tonnes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) No State Government has so far complained regarding the present monthly release of levy sugar quota. The monthly levy sugar quota is at present allotted as per the recommendations of the 8th meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Employees of Coir Board

3692. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the salary of class IV employees of the Coir Board is only Rs. 265 per month and they are engaged on office work during the day and that of a watchman during the night but their services have not been regularised since 1974 to-date;

(b) if so, the rules and regulations regarding the regularisation of Class-IV employees of the Coir Board working in Delhi and at other places and the minimum pay scales prescribed therefor and the actual amount paid during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government propose to take some effective action in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) to (c) The Coir Board has adopted

the scales of pay applicable to Central Government employees. On the implementation of recommendations of Fourth Central Pay Commission, Group 'D' employees of Coir Board, by and large, are in the scale of pay of Rs. 750-940 with effect from 1-1-1986. However, there are certain contingent/ad-hoc Group 'D' employees working as watchman in some showrooms and sales depots of the Coir Board and are paid consolidated remuneration depending on the nature of duty. In its normal process the Board examines cases of ad-hoc/contingent employees in accordance with the rules and decide about their regularisation on merits.

[English]

Seminar on Electrical Energy Tariffs and Metering

3693. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) the action taken on the suggestions made for tariff restructuring at the seminar on electrical energy tariffs and metering held at Bangalore recently, and

(b) the measures proposed to optimise energy use and facilitate better co-ordination between different electricity producers and utilisers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The measures proposed at the Seminar on Electrical Energy Tariffs and Metering held at Bangalore in November, 1987, to optimise the use of electrical energy include the use of time-of-the-day meters, metering of power systems at the national level and a uniform tariff for electricity, and reduction of transmission and distribution losses to increase the quantum of saleable energy. The organisers of the Seminar will circulate the conclusions of the Seminar amongst the State Electricity Boards, other power utilities, and manufacturers of power equipment.

Capital Goods Industry

3694. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the capital goods industry is facing serious problems as documented by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry;

(b) whether liberal imports have eroded the demand capital for Indian goods industry; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to ensure that this basic industry progresses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) and (b) According to the Index of Industrial Production, Capital goods sector has shown a growth rate of 10.6% in 1985-86 and 18.2% during 1986-87. This is higher than the overall growth rates recorded by the industrial sector. The industry represents to the Government, from time to time, its difficulties and suggestions which the Government takes note of, while formulating the policy.

(c) To give a further boost to the Capital Goods sector, Government have taken a number of measures through suitable changes in industrial and fiscal policies, encouraging schemes of modernisation and technology upgradation and providing assistance for the adequate availability of inputs at reasonable prices.

Government has given significant relief/protection to indigenous capital goods industry in terms of raising customs duty on imported capital goods, concessional duty imported equipment required for modernisation of selected capital goods industries, restricting import of second hand machinery older than 7 years and removal of certain capital goods items from OGL. Term lending Financial Institutions have recently introduced a special scheme for technological upgradation and modernisation of selected capital goods industries.

Closure of Wood Pulp Making Factories

3695. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether import of cheap wood pulp

has forced closure of several wood pulp making factories for rayon and paper industries; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the policy of making available cheap wood pulp from foreign countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The Paper Industry has been allowed the facility of duty-free import of pulp under Open General Licence to enable the Industry to overcome the raw material constraint and also reduce its dependence on indigenous forest resources. The import of rayon grade pulp, although duty-free, is permitted on a restricted basis to make up for the shortfall in indigenous production. As such, the facility of duty-free import of pulp is not expected to lead to the closure of wood pulp making factories

Improvements in Public Distribution System

3696. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state

(a) whether his Ministry pledged itself during the current drought and floods to improve the Public Distribution System in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken and the results achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) While it is the responsibility of the Central Government to procure, store, allocate and transport the seven essential commodities, namely, wheat, rice, sugar, imported edible oils, soft coke, controlled cloth and kerosene to the central godowns, it is the responsibility of the States/UTs to arrange for their transportation and distribution through their network of fair price shops. In the context of the drought and flood conditions, a number of steps have been taken by the Central Government to improve the public distribution system in the

country. Details of some of the steps taken and the results achieved are given in the statement below.

Statement

1. In order to enable the drought and flood affected States to meet the increased demand for foodgrains under PDS, extra allocation have been made to such States/U.Ts. The quantum of extra or additional allocations comes to 8.77 lakh tonnes of rice and 1.82 lakh tonnes of wheat during the period July to November, 1987.
2. Allocation of imported edible oils for PDS has been increased from 70,000 MTs. in July to about 2 lakh MTs. in November, 1987.
3. 8.57 lakh MTs. of sugar have been allotted for September and October, 1987 as against 7.62 lakh tonnes in August, 1987.
4. States have been advised to arrange import of pulses which are under O.G.L.
5. States/U.Ts. have been asked to open additional fair price shops in uncovered, remote and inaccessible areas and to press into service mobile vans to cover those areas where static fair price shops cannot be opened. Since August, 1987, 2961 fair price shops have been opened in various States. The Central Government has also sanctioned an amount of Rs. 182.50 lakhs to various States/U.Ts. for the purpose of mobile vans during the current financial year.
6. Allocation of imported edible oils for the vanaspathi industry has been raised from 60% in July, 1987 to 85% in September and October, 1987.
7. To prevent cornering of stocks by unscrupulous traders, the States/U.Ts. have been asked to gear up their enforcement machinery and launch drives against blackmarketeers, boarders, etc. Since August, 1987 to 24th November, 1987, 3268 raids have

been conducted, 1487 persons arrested and goods worth Rs. 1575.54 lakhs have been seized.

8. A Control Room has been set up in the Union Department of Civil Supplies for continuous monitoring of prices and availability of essential commodities. The States have also been asked to set up such control rooms.
9. Monitoring of progress of opening fair price shops and on the spot assessment of the situation are also being made by the Central Government.
10. States have also been advised to constitute Advisory Committees for surveillance and monitoring of prices and availability of essential commodities and to undertake constant dialogue with trade and industry.

Administrative Expenditure on Non-Conventional Energy Development

3697. CH. RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any efforts are being made to economise expenditure on foreign tours of officers, seminars and conferences and reduce these activities to the minimum which only are essential and productive; and

(a) if so, the steps taken proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps taken in this regard include restriction on foreign deputations involving expenditure unless considered very necessary in the public interest, postponement of Seminars/Conferences to the extent possible during the rest of the year and reducing expenditure on these activities to the absolute minimum.

Development in Telecommunications Network

3698. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps proposed to be taken to develop telecommunications network and it comparable with other developed countries;

(b) what are the constraints, financial or technological, in upgrading telecommunication and provide modern facilities; and

(c) whether planning had been undertaken in this regard and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) It has been proposed to induct digital technology in the network for transmission and switching systems.

(b) Digital transmission systems are not being manufactured in the country at present. It is proposed to set up factories in the public sector to manufacture Digital Coaxial, Digital Microwave and Optical Fibre cables and systems. Electronic exchanges of small capacity are not available in the required quantity to replace the manual exchanges. I.T.I. has set up a factory at Bangalore to manufacture small capacity electronic telephone exchanges. Adequate financial resources are not available in the 7th Plan period to meet the requirements of providing modern facilities. Case has been taken up with the Planning Commission for increasing the allocation of financial resources in the 7th Plan.

(c) Perspective plan for 2000 AD is under formulation.

Setting up of Industrial Growth Centres in Bihar

3699. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a memorandum from the Bihar Government for setting up industrial growth centres in Nalanda, Bhojpur, Aurangabad, Purnea, Khagaria and Saharsa with greater speed and gusto, is awaiting regular and adequate central assistance; and

(b) if so, when and to what extent Union Government will come forward for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) and (b) The following five growth centres, identified by the State Government of Bihar, have been approved for development of infrastructural facilities :

Growth Centres	Districts
Arrah	Bhojpur
Khagaria	Khagaria
Purnia	Purnia
Lakhrawan	Nalanda
Jaisoria	Aurangabad

Factual data with regard to the proposed growth centre in the district of Saharsa is awaited from State Government.

Detailed Project Reports and claims complete in all aspects are also awaited in respect of the above mentioned five growth centres.

Foreign tie-up for Gas Turbine Project of BHEL

3700. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited have asked some foreign parties for tie up for the Gas Turbine Project; and

(b) if so, the names of the foreign parties with which they have sought collaboration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) and (b) BHEL received suitable offers from six foreign parties, namely, M/s.

Ingersoll Rand-Allison, M/s. Solar, M/s. General Electric, M/s. Westing House (All USA), and M/s. BBC Switzerland & M/s. GEC RGT, U.K. for collaboration, to manufacture gas turbines.

Setting up of Small Scale Industrial Units in Andhra Pradesh

3701. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed by Union Government for setting up new small scale industrial units in Andhra Pradesh under the 24 Point Programme by the end of 1990, year-wise;

(b) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Union Government to increase the financial assistance to Rs. 20 lakhs per Mandal Industries Centre, keeping in view the meager amount given at present;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of such units expected to be set up in the State together with location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) and (d) Under the 20 Point Programme, the Government of Andhra Pradesh have fixed targets for the setting up of village and Small Scale Industries during the 7th Five Year Plan (1985-90). The year-wise targets as per information furnished by the State Government are as follows :

Year	Targets (Number of units)
1985-86	7500
1986-87	8170
1987-88	9200
1988-89	10100
1989-90	11100

(b) There is a no such proposal under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Urjagrams in Andhra Pradesh

3702. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the villages in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise, proposed by the State Government for setting up Urjagrams in the State;

(b) whether a proposal to set up an Urjagram in Nagarkurnool is pending with the Government; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay and the time by which necessary sanction will be released ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHI) : (a) Energy surveys are being undertaken in about 100 villages in Andhra Pradesh. Proposals for Urjagrams will be formulated by the State Government in villages found suitable on the basis of energy surveys.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortfall in Hydel Power Generation

3703. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the States where there has been a shortfall in hydel power generation during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether a high powered committee has been set up to find out the causes and submit its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether State Governments have approached Union Government for necessary financial help if so, the details thereof and when the decisions on the requests are expected to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The requisite information is given in the statement given below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Yearwise/Board/Organisation having shortfall in hydel power generation vis-a-vis the target during 1984-85 to 1986-87

1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
1. BBMB	1. J & K	1. HPSEB
2. HPSEB	2. Bairasiul (NHPC)	2. HSEB
3. Bairasiul (NHPC)	3. PSEB	3. PSEB
4. GEB	4. UPSEB	4. GEB
5. MSEB	5. GEB	5. MSEB
6. Kerala	6. MSEB	6. Maharashtra (Pvt.)
7. Sikkim	7. Maharashtra (Pvt.)	7. APSEB
8. NEEPCO	8. MP	8. Karnataka
9. Manipur	9. APSEB	9. Kerala
	10. Karnataka	10. TNEB
	11. TNEB	11. WBSEB
	12. Orissa	12. Meghalaya
	13. WBSEB	13. NEEPCO
	14. Meghalaya	14. Tripura
	15. NEEPCO	15. Manipur

Photographs on Ration Cards in Delhi

3704. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Administration has made it compulsory to attest the photograph of head of the family on the ration cards issued by them;

(b) the criteria behind this new requirements; and

(c) the reaction of the public in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c) For elimination of bogus ration cards, Delhi Administration decided in 1983 that attested photographs of the head of the family should be affixed on food cards. This decision was implemented in 26 circles of Delhi in a phased manner.

However, considering the inconvenience experienced by the general public, it has now been decided by the Administration that affixing of attested photograph of the head of the family on the ration card, would not be compulsory.

Reservation for SC/ST in NCCF

3705. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of executive and non-executive employees working in the National Co-operative Consumers Federation of India Ltd. as on 31, October, 1987, cadre-wise and post-wise;

(b) the number of posts required to be reserved for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, candidates cadre-wise and post-wise;

(c) the number of reserved vacancies filled up, cadre-wise and post-wise; and

(d) the reasons for not filling up the remaining vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) The information is given in Statement-I below.

(b) and (c) NCCF started maintaining a roster for SC/ST employees group-wise w.e.f. 1-1-76. Against 712 appointments made after 1-1-76, 162 posts were reserved for SC/ST candidates. The information with regard to cadre-wise and post wise appointments of SC/ST candidates made against the quota is given in Statement-II below.

(d) 28 posts reserved for SC/ST candidates could not be filled up, as further recruitment in the NCCF has been stopped w.e.f. 1985.

Statement-I

Persons in position on All India Basis as on 31-10-1987

S. No.	Designation	In position
1	2	3
A. Executive Posts		
1.	Managing Director	1
2.	Chief Managers/Regional Managers	5
3.	Manager	5
4.	Chief Controller of A/cs. & Finance	1

1	2	3
5. Manager (A/cs.)		2
6. Deputy Manager		14
7. Hindi Officer		1
8. Dy. Chief Controller of A/cs. & Finance		1
9. Asstt. Manager-I		41
10. Asstt. Manager (A/cs.)		16
11. Accountant		35
12. Asstt. Manager-II		34
13. S.T.O.		1
14. Project Officer.		1
Executive Posts (Consultancy & Promotional Cell)		
15. Addl. Cheif Consultant		1
16. Sr. Consultant		6
17. Consultant		8
18. Sr. Architect		1
B. Non-Executive Posts		
19. Field Officer		64
20. Jr. Technical Officer		1
21. Field Asstt.		50
22. U.D.C.		172
23. L.D.C.		186
24. P.S.		1
25. P.A.		16
26. Jr. Steno		29
27. Sr. Steno		22
28. Sr. A/cs. Asstt.		9
29. Jr. A/cs. Asstt.		12
30. Sr. A/cs. Clerk		66
31. Jr. A/cs. Clerk		28
32. Overseer		1
33. Asstt. Editor		—
34. Hindi Translator		1
35. Telephone Operator		3
36. Telex Operator		8
37. Gest. Operator		5

1	2	3	
38. Driver		16	
39. Daftari/Packer		21	
40. Store Helper		15	
41. Record Keeper		5	
42. Peon		149	
43. Tea Boy		4	
44. Sweeper		7	
45. Guest House Attendant		1	
46. Supervisor		2	
47. Asstt. Overseer		1	
48. Asstt. Foreman		1	
49. Semi-killed Operator		7	904
Grand Total :			1078

Statement-II*Position of SC/ST in N.C.C.F. W.E.F. 1-1-1976 upto 31-10-1987*

S. No	Category	Total No. of appointment 1-1-76 to 31-10-87	Post reserved for SC/ST	No. of SC/ST in existence	Vacant posts of SC/ST
1. Group-I	A.M.-II and above	30	7	7	—
2. Group-II	F.O./FA/ UDC/LDC/ Jr. A/cs. Clerk/Sr. A/cs. clerk/ Cashier	411	93	70	23 Less
3. Group-III	PS/PA/Jr. Steno/Sr. Steno etc.	64	15	8	7 Less
4. Group-IV	Peon/Daftaries/ Store Helper etc.	207	47	49	2 Excess
Total :		712	162	134	28

Secondary Switching Area for Integrated Digital Network

3706. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3803 on 12 August, 1986 regarding introduction of STD service within the District Headquarters and state :

(a) the names of the sixteen secondary switching areas planned to be provided with the integrated Digital Network along-with circles in which they are located;

(b) whether any secondary switching areas have also been included for this purpose subsequently; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether it would be ensured that at least secondary switching area in each circle is included for the introduction of this system in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) A statement indicating the list of 16 IDN districts identified is given below. (CORE PLAN).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In addition to 16 IDN districts identified in the core plan as detailed in the statement four more districts were identified for implementation of the scheme under the shell plan, These are :

1. Ambala	—	Haryana	These are in Shell Plan.
2. Bhopal/Sheor	—	Madhya Pradesh	
3. Gonda	—	U.P.	
4. Silchar (Cachar)	—	Assam	

Subsequently, Hamirpur distt. of Himachal Pradesh was added.

The implementation of these schemes is subject to availability of financial resources and equipment.

Statement

S. Name of District of
No. Secondary Switching area

Name of Telecom Circle

1. Dharmapuri	---	Tamil Nadu
2. Nagaur	---	Rajasthan
3. Sangur	---	N.W. (Now Punjab)
4. Khamam	---	Andhra Pradesh
5. Mysore	---	Karnataka
6. Mathura	---	U.P.
7. Nainital	---	U.P.
8. Barmer	---	Rajasthan
9. Kohima	---	N.E. (Nagaland)
10. Tirchur	---	Kerala
11. Amreli	---	Gujarat
12. Kolaba (Raigad)	---	Maharashtra
13. Koraput	---	Orissa
14. Katihar/Purnea	---	Bihar
15. Jorhat	---	N.E. (Now in Assam)
16. Bankura	---	West Bengal.

[Translation]

Telephone Line Between Kanpur and Khalilabad in Basti District of U.P.

3707. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a direct telephone line has been sanctioned between Kanpur and Khalilabad in Basti District of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether this line has not yet started functioning; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which this line is likely to start functioning "

THE MINISTER ON STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

Linking of Various Towns with Delhi by STD

3708. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to link various towns in the country with Delhi through STD during 1987;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to link Basti district, Uttar Pradesh with Delhi through STD; and

(c) if so, the time by which this facility is likely to be provided, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Basti is planned to be provided with STD facility by the end of the 7th plan.

[English]

**Implementation of Five-Point Action Plan }
by States**

3709. DR.V. VENKATESH :

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether drought hit States have been asked to act on five-point action plan formulated by the Centre; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan and whether the States have taken the follow-up action ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) In order to keep prices of essential commodities in check and improve their availability, Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies is implementing alongwith State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations, a five- pronged plan of action as under :—

(1) Opening of new outlets under the Public Distribution System, particularly in the drought affected areas;

(2) Adequate allocation and proper distribution of essential commodities;

(3) Effective monitoring and supervision of the PDS;

(4) Strict enforcement action to prevent hoarding blackmarketing, speculation etc.; and

(5) Keeping a watch on the price situation and holding dialogues with representatives of trade and industry for self-discipline and voluntary containment of prices.

The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have generally taken action for opening new outlets under Public Distribution System in drought affected areas, effective monitoring and supervision of the Public Distribution System and proper distribution of essential commodities,

strict enforcement of the provisions of the EC Act to prevent hoarding, blackmarketing, etc. and keeping a continuous watch on the price situation.

Constitution of Task Force for New Telecommunications Policy

3710. DR. V. VENKATESH :

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a task force was constituted for a new telecommunications policy;

(b) if so, whether it has recommended a number of innovative measures including issue of credit cards for phone subscribers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) As a follow up of the suggestions received during the National conference on Telecom. Mission organised by the Department of Telecom. on 3rd and 4th February, 1987, a number of task forces dealing with various subjects concerning improvement of telecommunications services were set up.

(b) and (c) Issue of Credit cards for Phone Subscribers has been recommended by one of the Task Forces. The task force has recommended three types of credit cards viz. (a) Prepaid credit cards, (b) Credit Cards on which the user will be billed at the registered address of the subscriber, and (c) User of credit cards will be billed against a bank account.

Communication Network for Western Sector and Railways

3711. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Telephone Industries has agreed to manufacture a complete

communication network for armed forces in Western Sector;

(b) whether such a network will be manufactured for Railways also;

(c) whether push button telephones will be provided to them during the next year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The Ministry of Defence have awarded a contract to the Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI) for establishment of a few telecommunication stations in some States along the Western border

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Production by Indian Telephone Industries Limited

3712. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., Bangalore has recorded an impressive alround growth during the year ended March, 1987;

(b) if so, the production during 1986-87 and to what extent it was higher in comparison to the previous years; and

(c) the growth rate upto 1987 and how much growth in I.T.I. production has been after March, 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The turn-over during 1986-87 was Rs. 440.70 crores, which was higher by Rs. 141.17 crores compared to the turn-over of Rs. 299.53 crores during 1985-86.

(c) The growth rate in the turn-over during 1986-87 was 47.13% over 1985-86. The production of equipment during the current year (1987-88) from April to October, 1987 was worth Rs. 212.45 crores as against Rs. 154.13 crores during the corresponding period of 1986-87, recording a growth rate of 37.84 per cent.

Reduction in the Price of Naphtha

3713. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a reduction in the price of Naphtha used as feedstock for petro-chemical industry;

(b) if so, whether the rationalisation of the price of Naphtha will give much needed boost to this industry;

(c) by what time the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(d) how many industries will be benefitted by this decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :
(a) There is no proposal to reduce the price of Naphtha used as feed stock in the petro-chemical industry.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

New Drug Price Control Order

3714. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "New DPCO to benefit traders" appearing in the Indian Express of 2 September, 1987;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the trade margins have been increased, the provisions of price control on bulk drugs for sale by traders ~~deleted~~ and imported

formulations excluded from price control order; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The decision to increase the trade margin has been taken keeping in view the increase in the Maximum Allowable Post-Manufacturing Expenses (MAPE) and representations received from all concerned. All indigenously produced scheduled bulk drugs except Vitamin bulk drugs, are price controlled and all imported formulations falling under Category I and II are also price controlled.

Bakreswar Thermal Power Plant

3715. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposed thermal power plants at Bakreswar will be built by National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) if so, whether the State Government had proposed to construct this plant on their own; and

(c) if so, the reasons for handing it over to NTPC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The alternatives for implementation of the Bakreswar Thermal Power Project (3 × 210 MW) are being considered and been discussed with the Government of West Bengal.

(c) Does not arise.

Production of Edibles by Hindustan Lever

3716. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Lever Limited has shown the entire tonnages relating to the business of edibles are produced for some other company for the years 1984, 1985 and 1986;

(b) if so, the basis for such a presumption; and

(c) the action contemplated on such a practice ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c) With effect from 11-5-1984, M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd. (HLL) had ceased to be the owner and M/s. Lipton India Ltd. (LIL) has become the proprietor and owner of the five undertaking, including, in particular the vanaspati and edible oils factories at Ghaziabad & Tiruchirapally.

M/s. HLL leased their Bombay and Sharnagar vanaspati manufacturing capacity to M/s. LIL. In these two units, as per lease agreement, M/s. HLL is producing vanaspati and edible oils.

Letters from M.Ps. to Super Bazar

3717. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letters received during the last twelve months from M.Ps. and how many of them are pending replies, with reasons thereof; and

(b) the details of steps taken to expedite replies thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Super Bazar has informed that during the last twelve months, it had received 53 letters from Members of Parliament, of which 2 are presently pending disposal.

Steps for Efficient Functioning of Public Sector Undertakings

3718. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to ensure that the public sector undertakings function efficiently, more competitively and viably;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to inject "private sector culture" in the functioning of the public sector so that they may become efficient and complete in the market with their goods; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Besides close periodical monitoring of their performance at various levels, structural reorganisation, technology upgradation, modernisation and rehabilitation of plant and equipment, adoption of improved maintenance practice, inventory and cost control, training and re-training of personnel, encouragement to labour participation in management constitute the steps taken for this purpose.

(b) and (c) Public Sector Undertakings are generally set up as companies registered under the Companies Act. Consistent with their accountability to Parliament, they are given sufficient autonomy to function as efficiently as enterprises in the private sector.

Telecommunications Facilities in Hexagons

3719. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of hexagons in which the Telecommunications Circles have been divided for provision of Telecommunication facilities, Circle-wise;

(b) the number of hexagons which have long distance trunk call facilities as on 31-3-87, Circle-wise;

(c) the number of hexagons which are scheduled to be provided with such facilities during 1987-88, Circle-wise;

(d) the number of hexagons which have local call facilities as on 31-3-87, Circle-wise; and

(e) the number of hexagons which are scheduled to be provided with local call facilities during 1987-88, Circle-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) Information is given in the statement below.

(d) Local call facility is provided through a local exchange wherever it exists in the hexagon. The number of exchanges Circle-wise is given in column 'd' of the statement.

(e) Number of exchanges to be provided Circle-wise during 1987-88 is given in column 'e' of the statement. They include local call facility also.

Statement

Status of Hexagons in respect of telecom. facilities in different Circles as on 31-3-1987

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	No. of inhabited Hexagons	Hexagons with trunk Call facility	Scheduled to be provided with such facility in 1987-88	No. of exchanges compiled upto 31-3-1987	No. of exchanges scheduled to be provided during 1987-88
		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4,991	4,896	10	1642	78
2.	Assam	1,715	441	50	120	—
3.	Bihar	4,740	1,406	145	233	76
4.	Gujarat	2,387	1,259	45	569	89
5.	Haryana	820	500	30	138	36
6.	Himachal Pradesh	432	220	25	161	74
7.	J & K	885	274	25	37	7
8.	Karnataka	3,648	2,325	45	878	89
9.	Kerala	546	546	—	515	67
10.	Madhya Pradesh	6,103	3,269	170	554	152
11.	Maharashtra	4,842	2,379	130	894	96
12.	North Eastern	1,593	336	50	99	44
13.	Orissa	2,110	936	70	212	25
14.	Punjab	771	400	10	256	36
15.	Rajasthan	61,93	1,740	240	404	80
16.	Tamil Nadu	1,672	1,667	—	903	94
17.	Uttar Pradesh	4,055	2,386	75	417	121
18.	West Bengal	2,777	876	80	294	36
Total :		50,280	25,856	1,200	8,226	1,200

Production of Delicensed Drugs

3720. **SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been decline in the production of delicensed drugs;

(b) if so, the production figures for bulk drugs which are being monitored for the years 1983-84 and 1987-88;

(c) whether the production of bulk drugs has recorded a much higher rate of growth in the national sector as compared to the foreign sector i.e. international companies operating in the country, during the last ten years;

(d) if so, the rate of growth in terms of value;

(e) whether it is a fact that the production of marginal drugs has risen much more as compared to life-saving and essential drugs; and

(f) if so, the percentage rise in the case of life-saving, essential and marginal drugs separately during the last decade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHNDRA SINGH) : (a) Majority of the de-licensed drugs monitored by this Ministry have registered increase in production during the last 3 years.

(b) Production during 1983-84 of monitored bulk drugs are available in the Performance Budget of this Ministry for the financial year 1986-87, Copies of which are available in the Parliament Library, Details of production for the period 1987-88 are not yet available.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Value of production of bulk drugs by the Indian Sector during the period 75-76 to 84-85 is given below :—

Year : 75-76 76-77 77-78 78-79 79-80 80-81
81-82 82-83 83-84 84-85.

Value In Rs. Crores	78	87	N.A.	144	173	184
..	217	253	290	309		

(e) and (f) My Ministry monitors the production of only 87 important bulk drugs.

Pending Applications for LPG

3721. **SHRI U.H. PATEL** :

**SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI** :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of applications are pending with different oil companies for the appointment of oil dealers, agencies, distributors, as well as for LPG dealers, agents and distributors in Gujarat and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, the reasons for delay and when they are likely to be cleared up; and

(c) the names and details, of dealer, agency holders and distributors of oil, petrol pumps and gas appointed in Gujarat during 1 January, 1983 to 31 October, 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Applications for the undermentioned number of dealerships/distributorships of the oil marketing companies are pending as in October 1987 for appointment of dealers/distributors in Gujarat and other States :

Name of the dealership/ distributorship	No. of proposal pending	
	Gujarat States	Other States
1. MS/HSD Retail Outlet	70	610
2. LPG	46	506
3. SKO/LDO	33	281
Total :	149	1397

Selections in pending cases have been delayed because the four Oil Selection Boards were in operative after July, 1986 with their term having expired. These

Boards have been re-constituted between March and September, 1987 and have begun disposing of cases. It does not seem feasible to indicate a time by which all the pending cases will be cleared.

(c) During the period 1-1-83 to 31-10-87, the oil companies appointed 106 MS/HSD Retail Outlet dealers, 87 SKO/LDO dealers and 114 LPG distributors in Gujarat State. The effort involved in compilation of the information regarding names and other details, will not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be served.

[Translation]

Power Requirements of Uttar Pradesh

3722. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) the quantum of requirement of electricity in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) how Government propose to meet this demand, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is decline in agricultural and other productions due to not meeting the power demand of the State; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken by Government to increase the power generation and to meet the power requirement of the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) During the period April to October, 1987 energy requirement in U.P. was about 13580 million units against which the availability was about 11318 million units which represents a shortage of about 16.7%. Various measures are being taken to increase the availability of power which include expeditious commissioning of on-going projects, optimum utilisation of existing capacity, reduction of T & D losses and implementation of load management and energy conservation measures. U.P. is also being supplied power from the an allocated portion of power from Singrauli STPS, over and above its share, to the extent possible.

(c) Supplies to various categories of consumers is decided by the State authorities keeping in view the position regarding demand and availability of power. The State has been requested to meet the requirement of power of agricultural sector on a priority basis. At present, supply of power of about 10 to 12 hours per day is being given in U.P. to the agriculture sector. In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply, power cuts/restrictions are imposed on various categories of consumers by the State authorities from time to time.

(d) In order to increase power generation, a capacity of 1794 MW is programmed to be added in the State sector in U.P. during the 7th Plan period. In addition, U.P. will also get its share from the Central Sector Projects in the Northern Region. A centrally sponsored Renovation and Modernisation scheme is also being implemented at Panki, Obra and Harduaganj thermal stations with a view to improve the performance of these stations.

LPG Connections in Pithoragarh, U.P.

3723. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval for cooking gas for Berinag, Gangolihat, Munsyari and Kanalichhina, etc of Pithoragarh district in U.P. had been accorded by the Ministry;

(b) if so, when this approval was given;

(c) whether cooking gas is being distributed at these places; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by Government for speedy distribution of cooking gas at these places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (d) Approval to Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam was accorded by the Indian Oil Corporation in January, 1987 for marketing of LPG at Berinag, Gangolihat, Munsyari. The actual marketing of LPG commenced from the first week of March, 1987 as these places were snow-bound till then. In regard to Kanalichhina, no request

has been received by IOC from Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam. However, IOC is examining the feasibility of LPG marketing at Kanalichhina in consultation with the Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam.

Vishweshwariya Committee Report on Cement Corporation of India

3724. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vishweshwariya Committee appointed to review the working of the Cement Corporation of India has submitted an interim report; and

(b) if so, the recommendations made in this report and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations cover following main points : --

1. Organisational and management aspects;

2. Financial and accounting aspects;

3. Technical and technological aspects;

4. Project planning and Management;

5. Capacity Utilisation;

6. Maintenance of plant and equipment and down-time analysis;

7. Inventory;

8. Cost of production;

9. Selling expenditure; and

10. Marketing in general, pricing etc.

On the basis of the findings/recommendations of the Committee, the services of Shri A.P. Maheshwary as Chairman & Managing Director of CCI were terminated on 27-5-86. Most of the other recommendations have been implemented while some of them are to be implemented on continuous basis.

Investment in industrial sector in Uttar Pradesh

3725. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been considerable decline in the capital investment in industrial sector in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) the name of the State where capital investment in the industrial sector has been maximum during the last two years and the percentage thereof;

(c) whether the steps are being taken by Government to increase the capital investment in industrial sector in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) to (d) Data from CSO on capital investment is not available for the last two years. However, according to the figures available in the Annual Report of the IDBI and IFBI, the share of sanctions of financial assistance to U.P. and the State getting the maximum assistance from these two institutions together is as under .

State	1985-86	1986-87
1. Uttar Pradesh	638.3 (13.8)	770.9 (13.9)
2. Maharashtra	673.0 (14.6)	672.3 (12.1)
Overall Total	4620.7 (100.0)	5558.3 (100.0)

Figures in brackets indicate percentage to total. (Period : July-June)

It will be seen from the above that while during 1985-86, Maharashtra was first and Uttar Pradesh second, during 1986-87, Uttar Pradesh has gone of ahead Maharashtra.

Survey for Opening of Petrol/Diesel Pumps at Bhikiasen and Thal in Almora and Pithoragarh District (U.P.)

3726. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to conduct any survey to ascertain if there is any necessary to set up petrol and diesel pumps at Bhikiasen and Thal in Almora and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which this survey is likely to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SARI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a) and (b) The survey conducted by the oil industry at Bhikiasen has indicated that this location does not meet the volume/distance norms prescribed for the purpose of setting up a retail outlet dealership there. Thal has already been included in the oil industry's Marketing Plan 1986-87 for setting up of a retail outlet dealership.

Rajadhyaksha Committee on Power

3727. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR
YADAV :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the decision taken by Government on the report submitted by the Rajadhyaksha Committee on Power seven years ago;

(b) whether any of the recommendations has been accepted by Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for its implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The Rajadhyaksha Committee on Power has made several recommendations relating to power sector planning, project formulation and implementation, operation and maintenance of power plants, financial performance of State Electricity Board, rural electrification, research and development and organisation and management of power supply industry. While implementation action on a number of recommendations has been finalised and guidelines issued to the State Governments State Electricity Boards and other agencies, consultation with the States on implementation of other recommendations involving organisational and statutory changes is proceeding further. A number of State have expressed their reservations about implementation of the structural changes recommended by the Committee.

International Subscriber Dialling Facility

3728. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the targets set and targets achieved by the Department of Telecommunications during 1986-87 and during the first half of the year 1987-88;

(b) the details of the stations which are now having international subscriber dialling facility;

(c) whether Government propose to introduce the international subscriber dialling facility at any of the stations in Kerala Telecom. Circle, Division, in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details in the this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) (I) 220 new cities of India were targetted to be connected on ISD facility during 86-87. The target was achieved by connecting 323 cities on ISD facility.

(II) 6 new cities were targetted to be connected on ISD facility during the first half of the 87-88 and the target had been achieved by connecting 24 cities on ISD facility.

(b) The details of stations which are now having international subscriber dialling facility is given in Statement-I below.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is planned to provide ISD facility to 12 cities of Kerala Telecom. Circle during 1987-88, as given in Statement-II below.

Statement-I**Alphabetical List of Stations having ISD Facility**

Sl. No.	Name of Station
	A
1.	Agra
2.	Allahabad
3.	Alleppey
4.	Ambala
5.	Amritsar
6.	Asansol
7.	Ahmedabad
8.	Arrah
9.	Adilabad
10.	Abohar

11. Ananthapur
12. Amroati
13. Anakapati
14. Aizwal
15. Alwaye
16. Adoni
17. Angamally
18. Ajmer
19. Alwar
20. Attur
21. Aurangabad
22. Ambur
23. Adoor
24. Ahmednagar
25. Akola
26. Attingal
27. Alagappanagar
28. Amreli
29. Aruppukottai
30. Almora
31. Arkonam
32. Arni
33. Avinashi
34. Ambasumdrum
35. Aligarh
36. ALTTC GBD Andal
- Adityapur
(Jamshedpur)
37. Agartala
58. Anaparthi

B

1. Bombay
2. Bhopal
3. Burnpur
4. Bahula
5. Barakar

6. Belgaum
7. Bhubaneshwar
8. Burdwan
9. Bangalore
10. Bhatinda
11. Baroda
12. Bareilly
13. Bellary
14. Bhadravathy
15. Bhimavaram
16. Bhavnagar
17. Bulsar
18. Bagalkote
19. Bilaspur
20. Bharatpur
21. Beawar
22. Bhavani
23. Burhanpur
24. Bhiwani
25. Bhuswal
26. Bidar
27. Bolepur
28. Badaun
29. Badagara
30. Bodinayakanur
- Balipatnam
(Canannore)
31. Bagdogra
32. Bhatpara
33. Billimora
34. Bajpe
35. Bullandshahar

- Barasat
(Local of Calcutta)
- Budge-Budge
(Local of Calcutta)

36. Bikaner

— — Bhillai
(Local of Durg)
Balvadi
(Local of Mysore)

37. Bantwal

38. Bobbili

C

1. Calcutta

2. Cuttack

3. Coimbatore

4. Chandigarh

5. Chapra

6. Chidambaram

7. Chingleput

8. Chalakudy

9. Chowghat

10. Cherpu

11. Cuddapah

12. Chitradurga

13. Chinsurah

14. Chowwar

15. Coochbehar

16. Chingavanam

17. Dhenganur

18. Chingnacherry

19. Chittoor

20. Chilakaluripet

21. Chikmagalur

22. Cannanore

32. Chanderpur

24. Cranganore

..... Chbaharatta
(Local of Amritsar)

..... Chikalathana
(Local of Aurangabad)

25. Chickbalampur

D

1. Delhi

2. Dhanbad

3. Darbhanga

4. Durgapur

5. Dharmapuri

6. Davangete

7. Dimapur

8. Darjeeling

9. Dindigul

10. Dalmianagar

11. Durg

12. Dibrugarh

13. Dhubri

14. Dharwad

15. Dehradun

16. Dugiralla

17. Dewas

18. Dholka

19. Dharangandhra

20. Dholpur

21. Dhar

22. Dwarka

..... Dhurwa
(Local of Ranchi)

..... Dispur
(Local of Gwahati)

23. Daltonganj

24. Dowelshwaram
(I/c only)

E

1. Ernakulam

2. Erode

3. Eluru

4. Etah

F

1. Faridabad

2. Ferozepur

3. Faizabad

4. Forbesganj

G

1. Ghaziabad

2. Gandhinagar

3. Guntur

4. Gudivada

5. Gangtok

6. Gorakhpur

7. Guntakal

8. Gadag

9. Gurgaon

10. Gudur

11. Gwalior

12. Gulbarga

13. Gopichettipalayam

14. Gaya

15. Guwahati

16. Gandhidham

17. Godhra

..... Guruvayur
(Local of Chowghat)

..... Gandhinagar
(Local of Kottayam)

18. Guladgud

H

1. Hyderabad

2. Haldia

3. Hasur

4. Hassan

5. Harihar

6. Hisar

7. Hazaribagh

8. Hapur

9. Hospet

10. Hobaguddi

Hubli

..... Hanumankonda
(Local of Warangal)

..... Hosour
(Sicpot)

I

1. Indore

2. Itanagar

3. Iranjalkuda

4. Iduki

5. Imphal
..... Ibrahimpatnam
(Local of Vijayawada)

J

1. Jamshedpur
2. Jalandhar
3. Jamurihat
4. Jammu
5. Jabalpur
6. Jaipur
7. Jamnagar
8. Jalgaon
9. Jowai
10. Jodhpur
11. Junagadh
12. Jamkhambalia
13. Jaora
... .. Jharla
(Dhanbad)
— Jhalukbari

K

1. Kanpur
2. Khargpur
3. Kozikode
4. Kakinada
5. Kottayam
6. Khammam
7. Kosikalan
8. Kohima
9. Kodiakanal

10. Kolhapur
11. Karnal
12. Katihar
13. Kottarakkara
14. Kota
15. Kovilpathy
16. Kunamkulam
17. Khandwa
18. Rarwar
19. Kalimpong
20. Krishnagar
21. Kancheepuram
22. Kuzhithurai
23. Karaikudi
24. Karimnagar
25. Kundra
26. Karur
27. Kurnool
28. Kalpetta
29. Kumbakonam
30. Kalpakkam
31. Kangsystm
32. Kalyan
33. Kothamanglam
34. Kalol
35. Kittoor
36. Kalamboli
37. Kalyani
38. Kovvur

39. Khanna
40. Kavali
41. Kanyakumari
42. Kothgudem
43. Koppal
44. Kundapur

L

1. Lucknow
2. Ludhiana
3. Lingampally
4. Lungleh

M

1. Madras
2. Muzaffarpur
3. Mysore
4. Mangalore
5. Marcara
6. Mayuram
7. Mannargudi
8. Madurai
9. Moradabad
10. Mehboobnagar
11. Mehsana
12. Machlipatnam
13. Malapuram
14. Manjeri
- Mavelikara
15. Malda
16. Motihari

17. Mettupalayam
18. Mirzapur
19. Meerut
20. Muzaffarnagar
21. Midnapur
22. Mhow
23. Morvi
24. Muvathupuzha
25. Modinngar
Morar
(Local of Gwalior)
26. Mahabalipuram
27. Musiri
28. Melvisharam
29. Margoa
30. Mahuva
31. Monghyr
32. Mathura
33. Mainpuri
34. Mussorie
35. Mandsaur
Manchanallur
- Mayiladuthurai
(Local of Mayuram)
- Malukkarai
(Local of Coimbatore)
- Mohali
(Local of Chandigarh)
- Mandore
(Local of Jodhpur)
36. Morena

N		Othakkadal	
			P
1.	Neamatpur		
2.	Narakkal	1.	Pune
3.	Nagapattinam	2.	Palghat
4.	Nadiad	3.	Patna
5.	Nagpur	4.	Panjim
6.	Neyyatinkara	5.	Patiala
7.	Nalgonda	6.	Pattancheru
8.	Nasik	7.	Palakole
9.	Nellore	8.	Pondicherry
10.	Nandyal	9.	Panipat
11.	Nagarcoil	10.	Pudukottai
12.	Namakkal	11.	Putur
13.	Nainital	12.	Palai
14.	Neyveli	13.	Pilibhit
15.	Nandigama	14.	Polachi
16.	Navaseva	15.	Prodattur
17.	Nizamabad	16.	Parmakudi
18.	Nagaur	17.	Palladam
19.	Nanjangud	18.	Permbavoor
20.	Nolikuppam	19.	Porbandar
—	Nagamalapudkottai	20.	Portblair
	O	21.	Panvel
1.	Ooty	22.	Pathankot
2.	Ongole	23.	Purulia
3.	Ollur	24.	Purendurai
4.	Orai	25.	Pratapgarh
—	Olavakkode (Local of Palghat)	26.	Punalur
		27.	Palanpur

28. Ponneri
29. Pathanamthitta
- Poranki
(Local of Vijayawada)
- Penambur
(Local of Mangalore)
- -- Palayamkottai
(Local of Tirunelveli)
- — Perianaickkonpalayam
Local of Coimbatore)
30. Payyanur
31. Pedapuram
(I/c to Stn.)

Q

1. Quilon

R

1. Raibareilly
2. Raniganj
3. Ranchi
4. Rupnarainpur
5. Raipur
6. Rajamundhry
7. Rajkot
8. Rourkela
9. Rajapalayam
10. Rajpura
11. Rampur
12. Rohtak
13. Rasipuram
14. Ranibennur
15. Raichur

16. Ranipet
17. Rewari
18. Rameshwaram
19. Rabella
20. Rengunta
21. Rewa
- — Ranipet (Sicpot)
22. Raigarh
23. Rawalpuram
24. Ramchandrapuram

S

1. Surat
2. Salem
3. Shimla
4. Srinagar
5. Shimoga
6. Shahjahanpur
7. Shillong
8. Sattur
9. Sitapur
10. Srikakulam
11. Siliguri
- P2. Sangli
13. Sangrur
14. Sirsa
15. Sholapur
16. Suri
17. Sonapat
18. Sagar

19. Shertalai
20. Sopore
21. Saharanpur
22. Sirsi
23. Samastipur
24. Sasaram
25. Sangareddi
26. Siwan
27. Savarkundla
28. Sivakasi
29. Shenkottah
30. Si vanga
31. Sankarancoil
32. Sirkali
33. Seoni
34. Surrendenagar
35. Sankridurg
36. Satna
37. Sathyamanglam
- — Sulur
(Local of coimbatore)
- — Silakman
- — Srirangam
38. Sultanpur
39. Samalkot
40. Sarthra

T

1. Trivandrum
2. Tumkur

3. Thiruvalla
4. Tura
5. Thodupuzha
6. Trichur
7. Tirupir
8. Trichy
9. Tirvarur
10. Tirupathy
11. Theni
12. Tuticorin
13. Thirumnglam
14. Tadepalligudem
15. Tirunalveri
16. Tenali
17. Tiruchengode
18. Triveni
19. Tiruvellore
20. Tiruvanamalai
21. Turbhe
22. Tanuku
23. Tirutani
24. Talod
25. Thanjore
26. Tenkasi
- — Tirumalla
- — Telco
(Local of Jamshedpur)
- — Tiruverumbur
(Local of Trichy)

-- — Tiruparaithurai
(Local of Trichy)

— — Thirunagar

27. Tirur

28. Talipramba

29. Tuni

U

1. Unnao

2. Udumalpet

3. Udampur

4. Udipi

5. Ujjain

6. Udaipur

7. Uthukuli

8. Unjha

9. Ulhasnagar

— — Ullal
(Local of)

— — Udayamparoor
(Local of)

— — Ujberria
(Local of Calcutta)

Statement-II

Sl. No. Name of Station

1. Tellicherry

2. Ponnani

3. Alathur

4. Munnar

5. Mannar

6. Mala

7. Parur

8. Kolancherry

9. Koyamkulam

10. Pandalam

11. Kanhangad

12. Nilesishwar

Seismological Studies of Narmada Sagar Project

3729. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of
ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether seismological studies are
made in all cases before finally sanctioning
Hydel Power Projects ;

(b) whether the World Bank had
insisted upon further seismological studies
before they could decide upon financing
the Narmada Sagar Project ,

(c) if so, the reasons for the same ;

(d) whether the further seismological
study was made in the region of the Nar-
mada Sagar Project ; if so, by whom and
the findings thereof , and

(e) whether the World Bank aid was
made available for the said project ; if so
the extent thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Further seismological studies were
conducted by the Department of Earth-
quake Engineering, University of Roorkee,
at the instance of the Dam Review Panel
which was constituted on the advice of the
World Bank. Based on these studies, the
Dam Review Panel has suggested some
design parameters to be adopted, which
have been incorporated.

(e) Narmada Sagar Project has been posed for World Bank assistance, but loan negotiations are yet to be held.

**Shares of Phillips Petroleum Company in
Cochin Refineries Ltd.**

3730. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the offer made by Phillips Petroleum Company of USA to sell its shares held in Cochin Refineries Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the time by which a decision is to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (c) Government of India has regretted its inability to accept the shares in Cochin Refineries Ltd. offered by M/s. Phillips Petroleum Company.

Power Generation

3731. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total power generated during the first three quarters of 1987 as compared to the corresponding period last year ; and

(b) the details of specific projects proposed to be set up by Government for increasing power production in the Southern States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) The total power generation in the country during the first three quarters of 1987 was 148112 million units as against 135085 million units during the same period last year.

(b) The details of ongoing hydel and thermal projects in the Southern region is given in the Statements I and II below :

Statement-I

Details of on-going Major/Medium (Unit-Size Above 5 MW or Power House Size Above 15 MW) Hydro-Electric Projects in Southern States

S.No.	Name of Project	Installed Capacity in MW
(1)	(2)	(3)
Southern Region		
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Nagarjunasagar RBC Extn.	1 x 30
2.	Nagarjunasagar LBC Extn.	2 x 30
3.	A.P. Power House at Balimela	2 x 30
4.	Pechampad	3 x 9
5.	Porma Ahobilam	2 x 10
6.	Upper Sileru St-II	2 x 60
7.	Srisaillam LBPH	9 x 110

1	2	3
Karnataka		
1.	Varahi	2 x 115 + 2 x 4.5
2.	Chataprabha	2 x 16
3.	Kalinadi St-II	2 x 30 + x 40 + 3 x 40
4.	Gangavali	2 x 105
5.	Sharavathy T. R.	4 x 60
6.	Shivpur	2 x 9
Kerala		
1.	Kakkad	2 x 25
2.	Kallada	2 x 7.5
3.	Lower Periyar	3 x 60
4.	Puyankutty	2 x 120
5.	Muvathupuzha	1 x 6
Tamil Nadu		
1.	Kadamparai PSS	4 x 100
2.	Lower Mettur	4 x 2 x 15
3.	Kundah-V-Addl.	1 x 20
4.	Parson's Valley	1 x 30

Statement-II

Details of Thermal Power Projects Programmed for Commissioning during 7th Plan and beyond in the Southern Region

S.No.	Name of the Project/ Unit No.	Capacity (MW)
(1)	(2)	(3)

Andhra Pradesh

1. Vijayawada Extn.
(U, 3 & 4)

Unit-3

210

Unit-4

210

Karnataka

1. Raichur St. I
(U. 2)

Unit-2

210

1	2	3
2. Raichur	Unit-3	210
3. Reichur	Unit-4	210
4. Gas Turbine at Bangalore		4 x 30
5. Kolar, Bidar, Jamkhandi & Indi DC sets		12 x 6.48
Tamil Nadu		
1. Mettur St. I	Unit-1	210.
(U. 1 & 2)	Unit-2	210
2. Mettur St. II	Unit- 3	210
(U. 3 & 4)	Unit-4	210
3. Tuticorin St. III	Unit-4	210
(U. 4 & 5)	Unit-5	210
4. North Madras	Unit-1	210
(U. 1,2. & 3)	Unit-2	210
	Unit-3	210
Neyveli Lignite Corpn.		
1 Neyveli 2nd Mine	Unit-3	210
cut St. I	Unit-2	210
(U. 3,2 & 1)	Unit-1	210
2. Neyveli 2nd mine	Unit-4	210
cut St. II	Unit-5	210
(U. 4,5,6 & 7)	Unit-6	210
	Unit-7	210

[Translation]**Pending Thermal Power Projects of Madhya Pradesh**

†732. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of thermal power projects of Madhya Pradesh pending with Union Government for approval ;

(b) whether the position of power supply of the State will be the same as it

was during 1969-74 when no new thermal power project was in progress and the situation had deteriorated due to delay in the approval of the projects ; and

(c) the names of the contingency schemes for the State if there is delay in execution of some hydel power projects during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) Four proposals in respect of setting up thermal

power projects in Madhya Pradesh have been forwarded to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and could be techno-economically appraised after all necessary inputs, such as those relating to the availability of coal and water as also environmental clearance, have been tied up by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board (MPEB).

A total capacity of about 947 MW is programmed to be added to the Madhya Pradesh system during the Seventh Plan period. In addition to its own schemes, the MPEB would be entitled to receive due share of power from the Central Sector projects under implementation in the Western Region. The State may have a nominal shortage in peak demand but is likely to be surplus in energy availability at the end of the Seventh Plan period.

Hydro-electric projects like Narmada Sagar and Sardar Sarovar are envisaged for benefits only in the Eighth Plan and beyond.

[English]

Setting up of Gas Turbine Plant at Bangalore

3733. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved in principle the proposal of Karnataka State Electricity Board for establishment of Gas turbine plant at Bangalore ;

(b) if so, the steps taken to set up that gas turbine plant and capacity thereof ; and

(c) when it will start production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) Approval, 'in principle', to the setting up of a 120MW gas turbine plant at Bangalore was conveyed, in February, 1987, to the Karnataka Electricity Board who are to implement the project. The commissioning schedule could be determined after orders for main plant and equipment have been placed.

Cell for Fluid Power Equipment manufacturing Industry

3734. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether the proposal to establish a separate cell for the fluid power equipment manufacturing industry is under consideration of Government ;

(b) if so, the main function of the cell ; and

(c) the other steps proposed to be taken to improve the performance of the fluid power equipment manufacturing industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The Confederation of Engineering Industry had submitted a proposal to the Director General of Technical Development for establishing a separate cell for fluid power equipment industry. The proposal has been carefully considered in the Directorate General Technical Development. In view of the fact that the fluid power equipment industry is a very small industry constituting about 15 units only, it has not been found administratively possible to establish a separate cell for this industry. The performance of the fluid power equipment industry is presently considered satisfactory and the industry is meeting the requirements of original equipment manufacturers as well as the replacement market.

Manpower Deployment in Public Sector

3735. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the manpower deployment and obsolescence are the main problems being faced by public sector units ; and

(b) if so, the details of Government's plans to meet these problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) The problems faced by Public Sector Undertakings vary from enterprises to enterprises. In some of the Public Sector Undertakings especially in the case of sick taken over enterprises deployment of manpower and obsolescence are the main problems.

(b) The various steps taken by the Government include modernisation, rehabilitation of plant and equipment, product diversification, overall improvement in the infrastructural availability, formulation of voluntary retirement schemes, rationalisation of manpower, absorption of surplus manpower in other enterprises in additional areas of work such as expansion as and when such works are undertaken.

LPG Dealers in Nagpur District

3736. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the LPG dealers of different oil companies are sufficient to meet the demand of the consumers in Nagpur district ;

(b) if not, the number of LPG dealers required in Nagpur district ;

(c) whether the waiting lists for fresh gas connections are mounting day by day with the dealers ; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):
(a) and (b) While the LPG requirements of existing consumers in Nagpur district are being met through the 29 distributors functioning there, the oil industry has planned to set up 7 new distributorships to meet the growth in demand ;

(c) and (d) Subject to augmentation in the availability of LPG and the necessary

related infrastructure, new connections to persons in the wait list are being released by the oil companies in the country and in Nagpur district where there are about 42,600 persons on the waiting list at present.

Ban on Resale of Cars for Handicapped persons by Maruti Udyog Limited

3737. SHRI H.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have banned for three years the resale of cars for the handicapped persons manufactured by Maruti Udyog Limited ; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The handicap control cars, fitted with duty-free imported automatic transmission and disability control gadgets, enjoy premium in the market. The ban on its resale has been imposed with a view to secure its equitable distribution and availability at fair prices.

Procurement of Gas Turbines by Assam Government from BHEL

3738. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have suggested to Government of Assam to procure gas turbines from the BHEL ;

(b) if so, whether any objections have been raised by the State Government to the suggestion of Union Government ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Union Government to meet those objections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) to (c) The Assam State Electricity Board proposed import of gas turbines for installation at Lakwa. Since the equipment could be manufactured indigenously, ASEB was advised to place orders on BHEL. Points raised by the State Government/ASEB regarding quality, performance, specifications, price, etc., have been discussed with them.

Comparative benefits of proposals to Import Gas Turbines and to Procurement from BHEL

3739. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total cost involved in the proposal of Assam Government to import four gas turbines ;

(b) the total cost of the same number of gas turbines to be available from the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited ; and

(c) how do the terms etc. of both the proposals to import and to procure from BHEL compare ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (c) The cost of import of four Gas Turbines totalling 60 MW as proposed by Assam State Electricity Board, is about Rs. 61 crores, while that of the three larger capacity gas turbines totalling 60 MW offered by BHEL is about Rs. 54 crores.

The price and other terms offered by BHEL compare favourably with those of the imported sets proposed by ASEB.

Gasification of Coal

3740. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI :
DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI BIMAL KANT GHOSH :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have a plan to identify the technology for large-scale gasification of coal and its use in power generation ; and

(b), if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) It is proposed to examine various coal gasification process for power generation so as to evaluate whether a technology could be identified by which a techno-economically viable power plant of 100-120 MW capacity could be set up in India

Mid-term Review of Seventh Plan by Engineering Industry

3741. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL . Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a mid-term review of the Seventh Plan was conducted by the Confederation of Engineering Industry recently ;

(b) if so, whether serious slippages in several key sectors of the economy were revealed ; and

(c) whether the review indicated that the level of investment was short of target as also the rate of savings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The Confederation of Engineering Industry, which conducted a mid-term appraisal of the Seventh Five Year Plan has based its report on the 1970 series of the Index of Industrial Production. The series has been revised and the 1980-81 Series of Index of Industrial Production is based on revised weights and is more representative and has captured the change that have occurred in the industrial scene since 1970. Indices based on the 1980-81 Series show growth rates which are higher than the targeted overall industrial growth rate for the Seventh Plan as may be seen from the following figures :

Period	Growth Rate
—	—
1985-86	8.7%
1986-87	8.9%
April-June, 1987	11.5%

**Constitution of Task Force on
Telecommunications**

3742. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :
SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high level task force on telecommunications was constituted by the Telecommunications Department earlier this year ;

(b) if so, whether this task force has recommended the creation of an 'approval board' for vetting new telecom. equipment, and

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) As a follow-up of the suggestions received during the National Conference on Telecom. Mission organised by the Department of Telecommunications on 3rd and 4th February, 1987, a number of Task Forces dealing with various subjects concerning improvement of telecommunication services, were set up.

(b) and (c) The task force dealing with "New Policies for Customers, Manufacturers, Business etc." has recommended that an 'Approval Board' be set up for streamlining and simplification of procedure of approval for new telecom. equipment. This recommendation has been accepted by the Telecom. Board in relation to subscribers' and equipment to be owned by them.

Losses in Coal Sector

3743. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken to make coal production cost effective ;

(b) whether these measures will bring down the huge losses in the coal sector ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) Efforts are being made to reduce the cost of production by improving the efficiency of operations by reducing administrative expenses, by better utilisation of men and machinery and by introduction of better management practices and technologies. The measures being taken in this behalf are expected to improve the financial performance of the coal companies but it is difficult to quantify the beneficial effect in terms of the amount of reduction in losses or increase in profits since these are also affected by administered prices and trends in wages and prices of inputs.

Overstaffing in Super Bazar

3744. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the continuous monitoring of rates in the newspapers of the Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar ;

(b) if so, whether the rates of a number of pulses and other items have been higher in the Super Bazar ; if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) whether one of the reasons for higher prices is the overstaffing as compared to Kendriya Bhandar and if so, the steps taken to absorb the excess staff elsewhere and to check further recruitment ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The efforts of both the Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar are to sell quality goods at reasonable rates. The Super Bazar sells laboratory tested pulses. As per the Bazar their rates for the comparable quality in the market are competitive. Prices some times vary depending upon, the quality and the rates of pulses and other items prevailing in the market at the time of procurement.

(c) The Super Bazar has stated that it is not overstaffed.

Supply of Edible Oils in Small Packs to Consumers

3745. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to supply palm and rapeseed oils in small pack of 2 and 5 kg. through public distribution system to check blackmarketing and easy availability of the same to the consumers ; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) The imported edible oils in small packs of 1 kg. 2 and 5 Kgs. are already being supplied through Public Distribution System.

Salal Hydro Electric Project in Jammu and Kashmir

3746. SHRI P.M. SAYEED :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the first unit of Salal Hydro-electric project in Jammu and Kashmir has been commissioned ;

(b) if so, by what time power is likely to be made available ;

(c) the total capacity of the project estimated and the first unit, separately ; and

(d) the total cost of the project both originally estimated and the revised one ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) Power

from the first unit of Salal Hydroelectric Project is being generated from 9th Nov., 1987.

(c) The total capacity of the project is 345 MW and that of the first unit is 115 MW.

(d) The original sanctioned cost of the project was Rs. 55.15 crores and the latest estimated cost is Rs. 583.26 crores.

[Translation]

Life in Khadi Sector

3747. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 20 August, 1987 under the caption "Rough life in Khadi sector"

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the matter;

(c) if so, the outcome of the enquiry; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Some of the highlights of a case study of the 'Role of Public Specialised Agencies as Instrument of Women's Equality and Development' by the Centre for Women's Development Studies relating to Khadi and Village Industries (KVIC) under the caption 'Rough life in Khadi Sector' appeared in the Hindustan Times. The report focusses attention on payment of low and unremunerative wages to women employed in the Khadi Sector, non-observance of labour laws and lack of support services for women where the work is carried on in the sheds etc.

The findings of this study are based on a sample and, therefore, they have to be viewed in the context of the overall functioning of the KVI sector as a whole, keeping in view both achievements and shortfalls. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission extends financial, technical and marketing support to the State Khadi and Village Industries Boards, registered institutions etc. which implement the Khadi and Village Industries programmes. The regular employees of the KVIC including men and women receive their monthly salaries as per the pay scales prescribed by the Commission from time to time. Therefore, there is no question of women employed directly by the KVIC not getting guaranteed minimum wages.

In so far as remuneration paid to the women workers are concerned, it may be stated that employment in Khadi and Village Industries Sector in so far as the production activities are concerned is mostly self-employment. There is no employer-employee relationship between the self-employed artisans/workers and institutions/societies which are providing work by way of supplying financial assistance, inputs, marketing support, training etc. and collecting finished products against a stipulated remuneration. The Commission has prescribed a system of payment of wages of a piece rate basis for adoption by the Khadi Institutions and departmental units producing Khadi. For this purpose, the commission has evolved a detailed cost chart for estimating the quantum of remuneration for each type of activity taking into account the cost of inputs, the quality of the products, count of yarn, design and even the type of equipment used by the artisans. This cost chart is being reviewed from time to time. The wage structure is uniform for men and women and there is no discrimination.

As regards the application of labour laws to the Khadi and Village Industries Institutions a study group set up by the Labour Ministry is looking into all aspects.

[English]

Industrialization of Backward Areas

3748. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had received suggestions from different State Government for revision of the existing incentive schemes for industrialisation of backward areas;

(b) if so, what are those main suggestions;

(c) whether his Ministry has examined these suggestions;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (b) The Inter-Ministerial Committee to review and revise the existing scheme for development of backward areas including No-Industry Districts had obtained the views of the State Governments. The Committee, after taking into consideration the suggestions received, most of which related to the criteria for determining the industrial backwardness of an area, has submitted its Report, which is under consideration.

Impact of Drought on Industry

3749. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

1a) whether Government have made any survey on the impact of drought on industry;

(b) whether drought is going to make any adverse impact on industrial growth;

(c) if so, its impact on different kinds of industry;

(d) how Government contemplate overcome these problems; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) to (c) As per the latest available index of industrial production, the rate of industrial growth during April-June 1987 over April-June 1986 was 11.5 per cent as against 6.1% during the corresponding period of last year. The impact of drought on industrial growth would only be marginal.

(d) and (e) Government have taken a number of measures such as making available essential commodities through a wide network of public distribution, employment generation in the drought affected areas through relief works and improved supply of raw materials and power.

Allocation of Wheat and Rice for Tribal Areas of Orissa

3750. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the allotment of wheat and rice under Integrated Tribal Development Programme areas of Orissa during 1987-88;

(b) whether there is a need to enhance the allocation to Orissa in view of serious drought situation, and

(c) if so, the additional allocation of rice and subsidised foodgrain proposed to be made to Orissa during 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c) Issues of foodgrains under the scheme for distribution of wheat and rice at specially subsidised prices in the Integrated Tribal Development Project areas and Tribal Majority States are made out of the allocations for the public Distribution System. No separate allocations are made for the purpose.

Detergent Industry facing shortage of Lab.

3751. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the detergent industry in the country is facing a crisis due to shortage of LAB

(Linear Alkyl Benzene) which is the main feed stock for this industry ; and

(b) whether there is acute shortage of LAB due to non-supply of kerosene to LAB units which had been established recently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHA AM) : (a) and (b) No Sir, at present, there is no shortage of LAB in the country and sufficient imported material as well as indigenous supply is available for the Detergent industry.

No unit manufacturing LAB, based on Kerosene as feedstock, has complained of any shortage or non-supply of kerosene.

Fixing of Limit on stocks of Essentials Commodities of Traders

3752. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Governments had been advised to fix limit on stocks of essential commodities to be kept by the traders to curb hoarding and profiteering ; and

(b) If so, the States which had followed the centre's advice and the names of States which have yet to follow ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Central Government has issued order fixing stock limits to be held by dealers etc. for pulses, edible oilseeds, edible oils, vacuum pan sugar and khandasari (open pan sugar). These orders are applicable to all States/UTs. So far as wheat and rice are concerned the Central Government has no proposal to fix specific limits. However, on account of the unprecedented drought in the country, the State Governments were advised to fix stock limits for wheat and rice, wherever and to the extent necessary, to prevent hoarding but the discretion in this regard vests entirely with the State Governments/ U.T. administrations.

Revival of Guest Control Order

3753. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of States which revived the Guest Control Order to curb lavish and ostentatious entertainments ; and

(b) whether Government have advised the States to enforce an order putting curbs on the number of courses that could be served in catering establishments ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) In response to the recent instructions issued by the Central Government, thirteen States UTs. have intimated that the Guest Control Order is in force.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Contracts for Drilling to Indian and Foreign Companies

3754. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian and foreign companies that were awarded contracts for oil drilling operations and the engineering services during the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 based on tenders ; and

(b) the names of the contracting companies which started drilling operations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Introduction of "Express Mail Service

3755. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government contemplate introducing "Express Mail Service" between

Speed Post and the ordinary postal service for quick delivery of letters ; and

(b) whether Government propose to introduce the "Express Mail Service" between important cities of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Special Allowance to Orthopaedically Handicapped Employees of Public Sector Undertakings

3756. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Orthopaedically handicapped employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings are not getting the special allowance of Rs. 75/- per month though their disability exceeds 40 per cent; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to sanction the special allowance to the Orthopaedically handicapped such as paralytics, polio victims etc., who are working in Central Public Sector Undertakings like, BEL, HMT Ltd., HAL and ITI ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to conveyance allowance admissible to blind and Orthopaedically handicapped employees of public sector undertakings. If so, the Bureau of Public Enterprises had issued guidelines to administrative Ministries/ Departments requesting them to advise the public sector undertakings under their administrative control to allow conveyance allowance to such of their employees borne on regular establishment (including work-charged employees) who were either blind or physically handicapped, provided the employee had a minimum of 40% permanent partial disability of either upper or lower limbs or 50% permanent partial disability of both upper and lower limbs together. For

the purpose of estimation of disability by medical authorities, the standards as contained in the Manual for Orthopaedic Surgeons in evaluating permanent physical impairment brought out by the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and published on their behalf by Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corpn. of India, is to be taken into account. The amount of allowance which was originally fixed at 10% of the basic pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 per month was changed to 5% of basic pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 100/- per month.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Revision in Pay Scales of Postal Inspector and Assistant Superintendent of Post Offices

3757. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pay scales of Postal Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents of Post Offices have not been revised so far as recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when these will be revised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The IV Pay Commission recommended the scales of Rs. 1400-2300 for the Inspectors and Rs. 1640-2900 for the Asstt. Superintendents of Post Offices. The Commission, however, stated that if an element of direct recruitment is introduced for recruitment to these cadres and the cadres of Inspectors and Asstt. Supdts. of Post Offices, and RMS are merged, the Government may examine what scale of pay will be suitable for these posts.

(b) and (c) The task of revision of the scale of pay after fulfilling the above conditions is being pursued.

[Translation]

Development of Wool Cottage Industry in Rajasthan

3758. SHRI VIRDHY CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that wool cottage industry can play an important role in providing employment opportunities to the people of Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan having perennial drought situation;

(b) whether Union Government propose to provide more employment opportunities to the people in the aforesaid districts, which are the worst drought affected district in the country, by giving special assistance and loans this year to Khadi Commission, Khadi Gramodyog and other voluntary organisations of Rajasthan, and

(c) if so, when and the manner in which it is proposed to be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) To provide employment opportunities in the drought affected areas of Rajasthan, KVIC, in addition to its normal programmes, has extended special assistance of Rs. 2.50 crores during the last two years to the State KVI Board and Institutions. KVIC has, for the current year, agreed to subsidise interest on Rs. 2.00 crores which the State KVI Board proposes to obtain as short term loan assistance from banks.

LPG Facility in Rajasthan

3759. SHRI VIRDHY CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of towns and cities in Rajasthan which have been covered by LPG facility as on 31st October, 1987 ;

(b) whether there are many towns which are the head-quarters of sub-division and not having this facility in the country and particularly in Rajasthan ;

(c) whether Government are aware that due to continuous drought in Rajasthan and especially in desert areas there is scarcity of firewood, the demand of LPG is increasing day by day ; and

(c) if so, whether Government will give special preference to desert areas for LPG facility ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) As on October 31, 1987, 54 towns/cities were covered by LPG marketing facility in Rajasthan ;

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Based on the report of a Committee appointed to suggest measures for preserving forests in Rajasthan through supply of LPG/SKO, priority is being accorded in the release of LPG connections and in introduction of LPG facility, in the towns/cities in Rajasthan identified in consultation with the State Government.

S.T.D. Service in Barmer and Jaisalmer Districts of Rajasthan

3760. SHRI VIRDH CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in the work on STD Service in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan ; and

(b) when they are likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Works are in progress for the installation

of automatic telephone exchanges and provision of transmission media for giving interdialling facilities in Barmer District as part of the IDN Scheme. The building for h using the automatic exchange at Jaisalmer is under construction.

(b) STD facility at these places will be feasible by the end of the current plan period.

Allocation of Wheat, Rice, Sugar, Edible Oil and Kerosene to Rajasthan

3761. SHRI VIRDH CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of wheat, rice, edible oil, sugar, kerosene oil and other essential commodities allocated to Rajasthan during the current year, month-wise ;

(b) whether this allocation is not adequate to meet the requirements of the people ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to ensure adequate allocation of these commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) A statement giving the quantities of wheat, rice, imported edible oils, sugar, kerosene and soft coke, allocated to Rajasthan, month-wise during the year 1987 is given below.

(b) and (c) Allocations of various essential commodities to States are made from time to time taking into consideration the availability of stocks, relative needs of various States, market availability and other related factors. Allocations of most of these commodities are supplementary in nature and are not intended to meet their entire demand.

Industrialisation of Backward areas

3763. **SHRI N. DENNIS** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have examined the reasons for failure of industries in some backward areas inspite of their classification as backward with preferential treatment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what special steps Government would take for the industrialisation of such areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Industrial Licences, S.I.A. and D.G.T.D. Registrations issued to those areas

Year	LOI	IL	S.I.A. Regn	D.G.T.D. Regn.
1984	1064(627)	905(323)		1915 (1144)
1985	1457(774)	985(427)	1167(681)	1961 (1140)
1986	1130(621)	618(278)	2387(1483)	1162 (610)
1987 (upto October)	769(412)	4.6(171)	1478(871)	**945 (501)

(Figures within brackets are for backward areas)

**Upto September

Additional Demand for Rice and Wheat in Maharashtra

3764. **PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE** : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total monthly supply of rice and wheat to Maharashtra State;

(b) what are the monthly requirements of rice and wheat of Maharashtra;

(c) whether it is a fact that the supply of these commodities from the Centre is inadequate; and

(d) if so, the quantum of increased supply likely to be provided to Maharashtra ?

DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) to (c) Industrialisation is a continuous process and it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned to provide infrastructure facilities for development of industries in their areas. The Central Government supplements their efforts by providing Central incentives/concessions, granting overriding priority in the grant of industrial licences to backward areas, etc. These incentives have encouraged the entrepreneurs to go to backward areas as may be evident from the number of Letters of Intent, Industrial Licences, S.I.A. and D.G.T.D. Registrations issued to those areas :-

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) A statement giving the required information is given below.

(c) and (d) The allocations from the Central Pool are only supplemental to the open market availability and made on a month to month basis, taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States, market availability and other related factors.

Statement

Monthly demand, allotment and offtake of Rice and Wheat from the Central Pool for Maharashtra for Public Distribution System during 1987.

(In 1000 tonnes)

Month	Rice			Wheat		
	Demand	Allotment	Off-take	Demand	Allotment	Off-take
January	75.0	50.0	47.1	60.0	60.0	77.1
February	50.0	50.0	39.0	80.0	60.0	53.4
March	60.0	60.0	50.0	100.0	100.0	77.0
April	60.0	50.0	48.5	100.0	100.0	78.9
May	60.0	60.0	45.0	100.0	100.0	91.5
June	60.0	60.0	49.0	100.0	100.0	91.4
July	60.0	60.0	59.0	90.0	100.0	99.4
August	60.0	60.0	49.3	90.0	90.0	89.3
September	60.0	60.0	59.9	90.0	90.0	99.1
October	75.0	70.0	71.6	100.0	90.0	87.4
November	75.0	70.0	N.A.	100.0	90.0	N.A.
December	75.0	70.0	N.A.	100.0	100.0	N.A.

N.A. - Not available.

Setting Up of Oil Refinery in Assam

3765. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 464 on 3rd March, 1987 regarding study by Engineers India Limited on setting up of oil refinery in Assam and state :

(a) the further steps taken to establish oil refinery in Assam ;

(b) whether any target date has been fixed for commissioning of the refinery; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a) Engineers India Limited have since submitted to the Government of Assam a

pre-investment Feasibility Report for the new oil refinery proposed to be set up in Assam under the Assam accord.

(b) and (c) The details regarding the refinery including its commissioning would be known only after an investment decision is taken to set up the refinery.

Use of LPG as Car Fuel

3766. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that in a number of countries cars have been converted to run on LPG;

(b) if so, the names of countries where this has been possible, the extent to which such change has taken place, economy achieved and such other details; and

(c) the progress achieved in this regard in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In parts of Europe, U.S.A. and Japan, LPG is being used in cars in place of Motor Spirit, on a small scale;

(c) Apart from the fact that LPG is intended essentially for use as a domestic fuel; the technoeconomic feasibility not having been established, there is no proposal to use LPG as fuel in vehicles in the country.

Grant of Lease of Salt Production Lands

3767. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Humma and Binchanapalli Salt Production and Salt Cooperative Society, Ganjam (Orissa) has sent a memorandum to him for granting lease of salt production lands; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In terms of the lease agreement executed with the present licensee of Salt Department lands in Ganjam Salt Factory, the lease has to be renewed. The Society have been informed accordingly.

Pipelines from Gujarat to Mathura Refinery

3768. SHRI D.P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pipelines that emanate from Wadinar in Jamnagar district of Gujarat and reach Mathura for the oil refinery;

(b) the number in full use at the moment; and

(c) the number of pipelines not in full use presently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) There is only one pipeline called Salaya-Mathura Pipeline which emanate from Vadinar and reach Mathura Oil Refinery and this is in full use.

(c) Does not arise.

Urjagrams in Uttar Pradesh

3769. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of "Urjagrams" established in Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) the present status of "Urjagrams" being established at Shahjahanpur, Bareilly and Pilibhit and the amount sanctioned for them ; and

(c) the amount already spent on each one ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) 19 Urjagrams have been established in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Urjagram project at village Bukhara in Bareilly district has been completed ; the project at village Singraha in Shahjahanpur district is under implementation ; and, a project at village Rura-Ramnagar in Pilibhit district is planned.

The amount sanctioned for the first two projects is Rs. 2,24,250/- and Rs. 2,14,950/- respectively. While the full amount has been spent in the Bareilly project, Rs. 12,500/- has so far been spent in the Shahjahanpur project.

Telephone Connections in U.P.

3770. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the demand for new telephone connections in U.P. circle for the last two years and how it has been met ; and

(b) what will be the demand for new telephone connections during the next two years and how it is proposed to be met ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The demand for new connections (waiting list) in U.P. Telecommunication Circle including Kanpur as on 1-4-85 & 1-4-86 was 42,343 and 48,049 respectively. To meet above, the telephone exchange capacities was augmented by 28,565 and 18,115 lines during year 1985-86 & 1986-87 respectively.

(b) The waiting list as on 1-4-87 was 51,904 and it is expected that about 23,000 new telephone connection demands shall be made each during year 1987-88 & 1988-89. Thus, about 70,000 lines are proposed to be added during year 1987-90, subject to availability of equipment and technical viability.

**Demand of Diesel Petrol Pumps and
LPG Connections Agencies in
Shahjahanpur**

3772. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state ;

(a) the demand for diesel/petrol pumps and gas connections/agencies in Shahjahanpur district, U.P. ; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken to fulfil the above demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b) The present demand for diesel and petrol, both of which are free sale products, is being adequately met in Shahjahanpur Distt. (UP) through the 24 Retail Outlets operating there. Keeping in view the volume distance norms, the Oil Industry has proposed to set up four more Retail Outlets in this Distt./Distt.

As regards LPG, the Oil Industry is covering in a phased manner towns with population of around 20000 and above and which offer adequate potential for viable marketing of LPG. In Shahjahanpur Distt. two LPG distributorships have already been

set up in Shahjahanpur town while an LPG distributorship is being set up at Tilhar.

Besides these two towns, the other locations in the Distt. do not offer adequate potential for viable marketing of LPG.

International Brand Names of Soaps

3773. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether international brand names of soaps, registered in India in the pre-independence era of the country are still being used by the foreign subsidiaries to the disadvantage of the Indian industry in the post-independence era ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government contemplate to rectify the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM), (a) and (b) Trade Marks, by virtue of their registration under the provisions of Trade & Merchandise Marks Act, 1958, are used on the relevant goods by the Registered Proprietors/Users.

Under the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 registration of the trade mark is not mandatory. A trade mark can be used without registration or before or after the expiry of registration without the protection afforded by the Act. At present the Government imposes a condition in the foreign collaboration approvals restricting the use of foreign brand names on products meant for internal sales.

**Promotion of SC/ST to from E1 to E7
Grades in N.T.P.C.**

3774. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any SC/ST representatives were there in the DPC during 1986 and 1987 for making promotions to each grade from E1 to E7 in National Thermal Power Corporation ;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ;

(c) the steps taken to appoint SC/ST officers in the present DPC ;

(d) the number of SC/ST candidates considered for promotion by the DPC during 1986 and 1987 in the respective grades as compared to general candidates ;

(e) how many SC/ST candidates were promoted in each grade vis-a-vis general candidates ;

(f) if no SC/ST officers were promoted, the reasons therefor ;

(g) whether any special training was arranged for SC/ST candidates and if so, the names of institutes where training was given ;

(h) whether roster system is followed in Departmental promotions for workmen/supervisors/executives, grade-wise ; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor "

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) An SC/ST

member was associated, both in 1986 and 1987, in the DPC for promotion to E1 grade of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). In the Corporate Promotion Committees constituted in 1986 and 1987 for promotion to grades higher than E1-an SC/ST member could not be included since SC ST officers of the required level were not available in the Corporation. The NTPC have sought the assistance of the Bureau of Public Enterprises for locating officers of appropriate status and suitable background for association as members of the Corporate Promotion Committees.

(d) to (f) The requisite information is contained in the Statement given below.

(g) While no special training programme was exclusively arranged for SC/ST officers, they were considered for training along with other officers.

(h) and (i) Rosters in respect of promotion in the workmen and supervisory categories as also promotion to E1 grade are maintained as required at all the operating units of the NTPC.

Statement-II

Promotion of Executives during 1986-87

Level	Considered			Promoted		
	Gen.	SC	ST	Gen.	SC	ST
1986						
E-1	81	—	—	44	—	—
E-2	266	1	—	186	1	—
E-3	187	5	2	121	3	2
E-4	92	4	—	58	2	—
E-5	23	3	—	15	1	—
E-6	36	1	—	9	—	—
1987						
E-1	137	1	1	82	1	—
E-2	385	17	1	272	11	1
E-3	273	16	1	189	8	—
E-4	182	8	2	123	6	—
E-5	58	1	—	25 + 1*	0 + 1*	—
E-6	43	3	—	13	0	—

*Considered in CPC-1986, but promotion effected in 1987 due to non-availability of vacancies in 1986.

Use of Foreign Trade Marks

3775. **SHRI ANANDA PATHAK** :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government place restrictions on use of foreign trade marks when granting industrial licences or cleaning foreign collaborations ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many of these companies are using foreign trade marks, even though they are specially forbidden to use them ; and

(c) what system of monitoring is there to see that the conditions of not using foreign trade marks is adhered to and what action is taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):
(a) While approving a foreign collaborations, a condition is laid down that the use of foreign brand names will not be allowed on products meant for internal sales.

(b) and (c) Under the existing law, there is no restriction on the use of foreign trade marks provided it does not involve any direct or indirect consideration in foreign exchange. Any trade mark can be used without registration or before or after the expiry of registration without the protection afforded by the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act.

Privatisation of Government Undertakings

3776. **SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI** :

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether executives of public sector enterprises have recommended privatisation of Government undertakings ;

(b) if so, whether a standing conference of public enterprises of all the public sector undertakings have recommended a number of other suggestions about Government undertakings ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government have accepted these recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):
(a) to (c) Presumably the Hon'ble Members are referring to a draft white paper prepared by Chief Executives of selected public enterprises. This has been considered by an Inter-Ministerial Committee of Secretaries and would ultimately be presented to Parliament after due processing. The contents of the draft white paper cannot therefore, be disclosed at this stage

Multi-National Companies Manufacturing Medicines

3777. **SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL** :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) what has been the pattern of production by the multi-national companies manufacturing medicines ;

(b) whether these companies are producing life saving drugs ; if so, the ratio of such drugs vis-a-vis other drugs like pain killers, etc. produced by these companies ; and

(c) what has been the growth of profit of these companies during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) FERA companies are manufacturing a wide range of pharmaceuticals including many essential drugs like antibiotics, Sulpha drugs, Vitamins Analgesics and Antipyretics, Cortico-steroids anti-TB drugs etc. This Ministry monitors the production of only 87 important bulk drugs.

(c) Profits made by pharmaceutical companies are not monitored by this Ministry.

Indigenous Production of Spare parts for Maruti

3778. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to his statement appearing in Indian Nation, Patna of 5 September, 1987 that percentage of indigenous production of parts in Maruti is being enhanced and prices of car would be reduced and state :

(a) what were the percentages of parts indigenously produced during each of the last three years and what is the target now, and

(b) what have been the prices of different models of Maruti to last three years and now much it has been increased or reduced each time ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) The percentage of indigenisation of Maruti cars has increased from year to year and the weighted average indigenisation for the last three years is as under :-

1984-85	19.4%
1985-86	30.36%
1986-87	46.05%
1987-88 (Target)	65.85%

Prices are decided by the Company on commercial considerations.

(b) The extent of increase in ex-factory price of various Maruti vehicles at different dates has been as follows :-

(In Rupees)

Vehicle	*Initial Price	Price Rise in Ex-Factory Price (inclusive of Excise Duty and Dealers Commission)					Current Prices
		1.4.85	28.3.86	4.6.86	14.3.87	14.10.87	
Car	47,500						
Standard							
Blue & White		2,450	7,150	6,800	7,650	1,000	72,550
Red, Brown & Green		3,200	7,150	6,050	7,650	1,007	72,550
Car Deluxe	79,000	450	5,550	8,800	8,850	1,325	103,975
Car A.C.	62,200	—	6,800	9,500	8,250	1,325	88,075
Van Flat Roof	47,500						
Blue & White		7,000	7,000	6,000	4,950	1,000	73,450
Red Brown and Green		7,750	7,000	5,250	4,950	1,000	73,450
Van High Roof	49,250						
Blue & White		7,000	6,850	5,800	5,550	1,000	75,450
Red, Brown & Green		7,750	6,850	5,050	5,550	1,000	75,450
GYPSY	83,900	—	3,100	7,900	6,650	1,500	103,050

*Ex-factory price (inclusive of excise duty and dealers' commission).

[Translation]**Visit of Central Team to Uttar Pradesh**

3779. **SHRI AKHTAR HASAN** : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 484 on 31 March, 1987 regarding supply of essential commodities in Uttar Pradesh and state :

(a) the evaluation made by the central team which visited the State of Uttar Pradesh to look into the complaints of Public Distribution System ; and

(b) the action taken by Union Government on the findings of the team ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) A Central Team visited Gonda and Muzaffarnagar Districts of Uttar Pradesh on 1st and 6th July, 1987 for an on the spot assessment of the availability of essential commodities being distributed through fair price shops. During the visit of the team, it was observed that sugar, controlled cloth, kerosene and imported edible oils were being distributed through the fair price shops. Rice and wheat were being distributed depending on their demand. The Central Team has given some suggestions for streamlining the public distribution system in the State, have been sent to the State Government for necessary action.

White Paper on Public Sector

3780. **SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA** :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a high power committee has been entrusted the work of preparing the white paper on working of public sector ;

(b) if so, the number of meetings of this committee held so far, and

(c) the time by which the white paper is likely to be prepared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) An Inter-Ministerial Committee of Secretaries had been constituted to finalise the draft white paper on public enterprises. The Committee held 13 meetings so far.

(c) A Draft White Paper has been prepared which has to go through various stages before it is finally presented to Parliament. A precise time limit for presenting the White Paper to Parliament cannot be indicated.

Price Control on Soft Coke

3781. **SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA** :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Advisory Board of Energy has recommended that the price control on soft coke should be removed and it should also be produced in the private sector on competitive basis ;

(b) whether use of soft coke would be encouraged by increasing its production with a view to minimise the use of firewood obtained from forests ;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : Yes, Sir, Recommendations of Advisory Board on Energy include removal of the control on pit-head price of soft coke and encouragement to private sector to instal mechanised plants to produce soft coke.

(b) to (d) To coal companies are being directed to increase production of the soft

coke so as to make available larger quantities to the States. To encourage the use and increase the availability of soft coke, the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute, Ranchi (CMPDIL), a subsidiary of Coal India Ltd., have developed a new technology for the manufacture of smokeless solid fuel, plants for which can be established in the Small Scale Sector, also obtaining bye-products which at present are wasted. Recommendations of the Advisory Board on Energy would be considered in appropriate forms and a policy evolved defining the potential and limits to the use of soft coke as domestic fuel.

[English]

Telephone Adalat in Panaji, Goa

3782. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra Circle of the Telecommunications Department held a Telephone Adalat in Panaji, Goa ;

(b) if so, when the same was held ;

(c) the number and nature of complaints received and the relief given ;

(d) whether this Adalat was successful in providing the solution to subscribers' complaints ;

(e) whether the Members of the Telephone Advisory Committee or the elected representatives of the people were associated with the Adalats ; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was held on 19th October, 1987.

(c) Total 18 complaints were received as per details below :

Excess billing	...	7
Refund of Collection charges	...	1

Demand for new telephone connections ... 5

Faulty working of telephones ... 5

All the above complaints were discussed and decided to the satisfaction of concerned participants.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As the case-particulars are invited in advance through advertisements in local media and discussed with the subscriber on the appointed day, associating the members of the Telephone Advisory Committee or elected representatives with the Telephone Adalat specifically for the purpose is not considered necessary.

(f) In view of reply to (e), above, question does not arise.

Drilling in 24-Parganas District of West Bengal

3783. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the drilling work in South 24 parganas of West Bengal is not progressing on account of various difficulties in terms of availability of sufficient rigs and other equipment and material ;

(b) if so, the probable effect on the success of drilling work in that region ; and

(c) the various steps so far taken or proposed to be taken in different areas of the district for successful drilling operations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Import of Second Hand Machinery by Sewa Paper Mills, Orissa

3784. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Sewa Paper Mills at Jeypore Koraput District, Orissa had procured and installed discarded second hand imported machinery ;

(b) the country from which the said machinery was imported and how much duty was paid ,

(c) whether Government are aware that the allegation from public that the engineers of financial organisation in collusion with the entrepreneur have certified the machinery as operation worthy but the mill has to be closed and

(d) what is the extent of forest area leased out to Sewa Mills by Government of Orissa for procuring raw materials such as bamboo, etc. and how many trees were standing on the land and its market value ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) M/s Sewa Paper Mills had imported and installed the following second-hand machines

- (i) M F Paper Machine from Norway/ Sweden
- (ii) Recovery boiler from Sweden.
- (iii) Back pressure turbine from Sweden

According to the information given by the Company, a sum of Rs. 154.34 lakhs has been paid as Customs Duty

(c) Import of second-hand machinery has been allowed, taking into account the Chartered Engineer's Certificate with regard to the year of manufacture, condition of the machinery, its residual life etc., in accordance with the procedure laid down. The Financial Institutions have indicated that they had no role in selection of the second-hand paper machine.

(d) Government of Orissa has allotted 25,250 hectares of forest land to the Company. Details about the standing trees and their market value are not available.

Identification of Industries

3785. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU .

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether a working group comprising of Industrial Development Bank of India and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India has been asked to identify industries for whose products there may be reduced demand in the domestic market ;

(b) if so, whether the working Group has submitted its plans , and

(c) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) No Sir. However, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India has conducted a study on the impact of drought on the industrial sector. The study covers only 16 industries having a weight of 28 per cent in the index of Industrial Production. Its main conclusion is that the impact of drought on industrial growth will be marginal.

(b) and (c) Does not arise

Strike by Central Trade Union in West Bengal

3786 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Central Trade Unions in public sector industries in West Bengal have decided to go on strike on 23rd November, 1987 to press for their demands ;

(b) if so, what are their demands and Government's reaction thereon ; and

(c) the action taken by Government to avert the strike ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Yes, Sir. The Central Trade Unions have since postponed the strike.

(b) The strike was called demanding extension of interim relief to the employees of Public Sector Enterprises in the Engineering, Jute and Textile Sectors in West Bengal. Interim relief was not extended to these units as wage settlements common to both the private and public enterprises are finalised in these sectors.

(c) The Industry Minister has written to the Chief Minister of West Bengal clarifying why interim relief cannot be paid in these units and requesting him to use his good offices to avert the strike.

Setting up of National Hydro-Electric Design and Research Institute

3787. CH. RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Hydro-electric Design and Research Institute in Rishikesh (U.P.) ;

(b) if so, details thereof ; and

(c) by what time the institute is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) It has been decided that National Hydro-electric Power Corporation would set up "National Institute of Hydro Power Research & Development" at Rishikesh (U.P.), carry out and coordinate research and development activities relating to designs, construction techniques and environmental aspects of hydro-electric projects. The details, including the schedule for setting up the Institute, are yet to be finalised.

Import of Edible Oil by STC

3788. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) had earlier in the year, stopped supply of imported edible oils to Vanaspati Industry ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) what prompted the STC to resume supply of edible oils to the Vanaspati manufacturers ; and

(d) what was the issue price of imported edible oils, fixed by Government before the stoppage of supply by STC and what is the present price ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c) Due to administrative exigencies, the supply of imported edible oils was suspended for sometime.

(d) The issue price to vanaspati industry before and after 1.8.87 is as under :

Issue Price before 1.8.87	Issue Price after 1.8.87
Rs. 11,500/-PMT (Normal rates)	Rs. 15,000/-PMT (Normal rates)
Rs. 13,000/-PMT (Commercial rates)	Rs. 18,000/-PMT (Addl. Allocation)

Energy Conservation Cess

3789. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposed energy conservation cess on industry has been shelved ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The question of creating an energy conservation fund has been considered. It has been decided that energy conservation programmes should be implemented with the budgetary support available so that implementation of

these programmes can be taken up immediately.

- - - -

12 00 hrs.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, I want to draw attention to a very serious matter

[*Translation*]

MR SPEAKER : The house seems to be too agitated today

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE The Cabinet Minister, Mr. Shiv Shankar, has publicly alleged that the Supreme Court is a haven of smugglers

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER It is not so

(Interruptions) **

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) Sir, we have given notices under rule 193...

*(Interruptions)***

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE Sir, you must give us protection.

MR. SPEAKER I will give you protection I will only have to ascertain...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I had sent you newspaper clippings.

MR SPEAKER I know.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER . Please listen Professor. I have received your notice.

(Interruptions)

**Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER . One minute. Let me reply to the Professor.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Just wait, please, I will also listen to you Please keep quiet, do not be perturbed

[*English*]

I will listen to you Don't worry

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE . Please listen to us

MR. SPEAKER . I will listen to you. But, first, I will have to ascertain whether what has appeared in the Press is correct or not ; and then accordingly, I will take action

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) The statement he made at Hyderabad is derogatory and denigrates the highest court of the land

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER . Anybody may write anything against anyone I was also present there.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : A big report has come in the paper with a heading that the Supreme Court is a have of smugglers. *(Interruptions)* He is a former Law Minister

MR. SPEAKER . He is still the Law Minister.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Now he is a Union Minister. *(Interruptions)*. He has the temerity to call the Supreme Court a haven of smugglers. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will have to find out what is the context. You give it to me and I will get an answer.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have already given you. *(Interruptions)* I hope you have seen the clipping that I have sent to you. *(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Just a minute, please. I will listen to you also. First, let me reply to him. Thereafter, I will listen to you patiently

[Interruptions]

MR. SPEAKER : First of all let me reply to one thing.

[English]

I am on my legs to reply to something.

[Translation]

If you do not allow to me to reply to him, how can I speak ?

(English)

What I say is that I have to a certain whether these words are his or not and what he has said. You have given me only an Adjournment Motion. You give me something else and I will get it through.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO : The Law Minister cannot make derogatory remarks against the Supreme Court. You should have verified from Mr. Shiv Shanker.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I am coming to you also. Why are you doing this ? I am coming. I will listen to you also.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I want to listen to you only. Even then you do not allow me

to listen. It is not possible to listen to all of you at a time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Minister of Law can say so against the Supreme Court, what for Supreme Court is there then ?

MR. SPEAKER : Tulsiramji, if tomorrow somebody says that you have committed a murder, will you be hanged without any hearing ?

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : No.

MR. SPEAKER : Similarly, we will have to look in to the present case with that angle.

(Interruptions)

(English)

MR. SPEAKER : I will have to ascertain ..

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : It was a part of the written speech.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will have to ascertain it. That is what I say,

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichetti Palayam) : A serious situation is prevailing in Sri Lanka. Even today it has been reported that 12 IPKF men have been killed. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : There is no question of adjournment motion. Nothing doing.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Against Shri N.T. Rama Rao we had given a notice under Rule 193 five days back. What have you done about it ?

MR. SPEAKER : You are a Member of this House. So, any question regarding you cannot be taken up in the State Assemblies of Andhra Pradesh or Maharashtra.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Mr. Antulay was discussed.

MR. SPEAKER : No it was not Mr. Antulay; it was something else. We have got to find out the context and under what head and under what rule I can do it then I will do it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : We have given a notice. Mr. Antulay's case was discussed here in both the Houses. (Interruptions) The Andhra Pradesh High Court after being *Prima facie* satisfied has asked the Central Government .. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not make an uproar. Why do you make an uproar ? Why do you strain so much ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Listen, I am telling you the same, but you do not at all listen. Then what can I do ? One thing I am telling that if there is something, it will definitely be discussed under the rules

[English]

I am just finding it out. I told you on that day and the same thing I am telling you today I will have to ascertain and satisfy myself whether I can do something about it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : I would like to know whether we are going to discuss the problems in Sri Lanka or not.

MR. SPEAKER : Not now

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : I have already given a notice under Rule 193. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : I have not heard anything about my adjournment motion regarding the misuse of Doordarshan..... ?

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : You are a very learned man. You know that this is not a question for adjournment motion. You can give me a question and I will get it answered.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing doing. You can give me something else.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Now it is meaning less

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S DEO : Sir, I have given a notice of adjournment motion against Mr. Shiv Shanker for the derogatory and contemptuous remarks he recently made against the Supreme Court

MR. SPEAKER : I have already answered. How many times do I have to say it ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing doing. I have not allowed the hon. Member, because I have already told you so many times that I cannot do it in just hearsay and what is printed in the newspapers. I have to ascertain.

[Translation]

You are doing the something again.

You are a wise person Why are you insisting upon ?

**Not recorded.

[English]

If somebody was to say something against you, how will you read ?

Will you have to explain or not ?

Why do you indulge in wrong things.

Why do you unnecessarily do like this ?

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bomby South Central) : I have already given a notice of adjournment motion. More than a hundred mills are closed. Thousands of workers are starving. Swan Mills, Modern Mills and many other mills are closed, due to the textile policy. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tanti.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed Mr. Tanti, Mr. Samant. He has the floor, not you.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kalia-bor) : I have given a notice for a discussion under Rule 193.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will see. There is no point. Nothing doing.

[Translation]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura) : Yesterday also I had made a submission about Sri Lanka situation. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have been informed that I will be getting the answer back today.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I have already given an adjournment motion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. We have already discussed that subject.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a very serious railway accident has taken place at Kishangarh. The Railway Department has announced compensation at the rate of Rs. 500 or so. Is the price of human life just Rs. 5000 or so. Full compensation should be given ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Statement is coming today.

(Interruptions)

12.07 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of the National Newsprint and Paper Mills for 1986-87, etc. etc.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

(a) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Newsprint and Paper Mills Limited, Nepanagar, for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Newsprint and Paper Mills Limited, Nepanagar, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5134/87].

(b) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Pumps and

Compressors Limited, Naini, for the year 1986-87.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Pumps and Compressors Limited, Naini, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5135/87]

- (c) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1986-87.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Limited Visakhapatnam, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5136/87]

Notifications under Essential Commodities Act, 1956.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): On behalf of Shri H.K.L. Bhagat, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act 1956 :-

(1) The Pulses; Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) (Second Amendment) Order, 1987 published in Notification No. S.O. 833(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th September, 1987.

(2) The Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Third Amendment Order, 1987 published in Notification No. S.O. 983(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th November, 1987.

(3) The Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Fourth Amendment Order, 1987 published in Notification

No. S.O. 992(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th November, 1987.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-5137/87]

Oil and Natural Gas Commission (Travelling Allowance) Amendment Regulations, 1985 and Statement *re* reasons for delay; Annual Report of and Review on working of Engineers India Limited, etc. etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): I beg to lay on the Table —

(1) A copy of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (Travelling Allowance) Amendment Regulations, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 17(49)/83-Reg. in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 1985 under sub-section.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the notification mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5138/87]

(3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section () of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

(a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Engineers India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the Engineers India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. *[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5139/87].*

(b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bombay, for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited Bombay, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and

Auditor General thereon. [*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-5140/87].

(c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Oil India Limited, for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the Oil India Limited, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-5141/87]

(d) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the IBP Company Limited, Calcutta and its subsidiary viz. Messers Balmer Lawrie and Company Limited, for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the IBP Company Limited, Calcutta and its subsidiary viz. Messers Balmer Lawrie and Company Limited for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon

[*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-5142/87]

(e) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Biecco Lawrie Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the Biecco Lawrie Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-5143/87]

Notification under Customs Act, 1962 and under Central Excise Rules, 1944

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table —

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :

(i) G.S.R. 901(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum

making certain amendments to Notification No. 263/85—Customs dated the 16th August, 1985 so as to enlarge the list of items in entry at Sl. No. 9 of the said notification thereby permitting Moulds, Dies and Instruments to be imported free of customs duty.

(ii) GSR 902(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 262/85—Customs dated the 16th August, 1985 so as to enlarge the list of items in entry at Sl. No. 9 of the said notification thereby permitting Moulds, Dies and Instruments to be imported free of customs duty.

(iii) G.S.R. 903(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 340/86—Customs dated the 13th June, 1986 so as to enlarge the list of items in entry at Sl. No. 9 of the said notification thereby permitting Moulds, Dies and Instruments to be imported free of customs duty.

(iv) G.S.R. 904(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 339/85—Customs dated the 21st November, 1985 so as to enlarge the list of items in the entry at Sl. No. 9 of the said notification thereby permitting Moulds, Dies and Instruments to be imported free of customs duty.

[*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-5144/87]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944 :-

(i) G.S.R. 883(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th October, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 175/86—CE dated the 1st March, 1986 so as to provide that the waiver of the condition of registration of a small scale unit that was hitherto available to a certain class of units has been withdrawn in respect of factories registered under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

(ii) G.S.R. 884(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th October, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 147/84-CE dated the 18th June, 1984 so as to correct a typographical error in the original notification.

(iii) G.S.R. 886(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd November, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification Nos. 172/84-CE, 178/84 CE 182/84-CE and 186/84-CE dated the 1st August, 1984 so as to provide that exemption to waste and scrap of nonferrous metals would only be available if no credit is taken on the input from which such scrap is generated. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-5145/87.*]

Notifications under Petroleum Act, 1934 and Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951; Annual Accounts of and Review of Audited Accounts of National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives limited and statement of reasons for delay.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) I beg to lay on the Table —

(1) A copy of the Petroleum (Amendment) Rules, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 590(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 1987 under sub-section (4) of section 29 of the Petroleum Act, 1934.

[*Placed in Library. See No. LT-5146/87*]

(2) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 868(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 1987 regarding extension of the period of take over of the management of Messrs Alok Udog Vanaspati and Plywood Limited, beyond five years under sub-section (2) of Section 18A of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

[*Placed in Library. See No. LT-5147/87*]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National

Federation of Industrial Cooperative (Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1982-83 together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1982-83.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[*Placed in Library. See No. LT-5148/87*]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of the Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Ltd for 1986-87

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

(1) Review by the Government on the Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, Calcutta for the year 1986-87.

(2) Annual Report of the Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[*Placed in Library. See No. LT-5149/87*]

12.09 hrs

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : The Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House in their Tenth Report presented to the House on 30th November, 1987, have recommended that leave of absence be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each :-

1. Shri Gangadhar S. Kuchan	—	10th August to 28th August, 1987.
2. Shri M.V. Chandrashekara Murthy	—	3rd August to 21st August, 1987.
3. Shri A.R. Murugaiah	—	1st August to 28th August, 1987.
4. Shri S.S. Ramasamy Padayachi	—	(i) 8th May to 12th May, 1987; (ii) 27th July to 28th August, 1987 & (iii) 6th November to 26th November, 1987.
5. Shri Sunil Dutt	—	27th April to 12th May, 1987 and — 27th July to 24th August, 1987.
6. Dr. A. Kalanidhi	—	6th November to 11th December, 1987.
7. Shri Khurshed Alam Khan	—	18th November to 2nd December, 1987.
8. Shri Martand Singh	—	8th November to 30th November, 1987.
9. Shri V.N. Gadgil	—	16th November to 11th December, 1987.

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : The leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

[English]

He is not so naive to have remarked like that.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : In which context it was said that you will come to know only when you read it.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Once clarification, Sir. I am told that you were present at the meeting when Shri Shiv Shanker made this reference. You had been there. You were an eye-witness and ear-witness.

MR. SPEAKER : I said so. That is what I said. I was there.

[Translation]

It is necessary to see the context in which it was said.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : A smuggler is a smuggler in any context.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Seventeenth Report and Minutes

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : I beg to present the Seventeenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table.

I also beg to lay on the Table Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sittings of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table relating to their Seventeenth Report.

—————

[translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Salem-pur) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have given a notice of calling Attention Motion. Two different prices for sugarcane have been fixed in Uttar Pradesh .. [Interruptions]

MR. SPEAKER : There is nothing to worry. What are you doing ? If there is really any issue, please do. Speak.

12.10 hrs.

STATEMENT RE FIRE ACCIDENT IN A COACH OF 14 DOWN AJMER-DELHI FAST PASSENGER TRAIN ON 29-11-87.

(English)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Sir, I deeply regret to apprise the House of an unfortunate fire accident to 14 Down Ajmer-Delhi Fast Passenger on the Jaipur Division of Western Railway. At about 16.15 hours on 29.11.87, while this train was running between Kishangarh and Mandawariya stations on the Ajmer-Phulera metre gauge section, 7th coach from the train engine, a II Class 3-Tier Sleeper, caught fire. The train had a load of 12 coaches and was hauled by a steam loco. The train was brought to a stop by alarm chain pulling from the affected as well as the adjacent coaches. I regret to report, however, that as a result of the accident, 2 persons sustained grievous injuries, 15 simple injuries and 24 persons lost their lives.

The injured have been admitted to the Civil Hospitals at Kishangarh and Ajmer.

Railway Medical Vans were rushed from Ajmer and Phulera. Railway Doctors rushed to the site by road with ambulances. Fire brigades were rushed from Kishangarh and Ajmer. Though the site of accident falls in the jurisdiction of Jaipur Division, Divisional Railway Manager and other officers from Ajmer also rushed to the site and both the divisions are co-ordinating relief work. General Manager, Western Railway and other officers have visited the site of accident. Member Traffic and

Member Mechanical, Railway Board, also rushed to the site from Delhi.

On receipt of information, I also proceeded to Kishangarh and Ajmer, condoled with some of the bereaved families and visited the injured in the hospitals.

Ex-gratia payment to the injured and to the next of kin of the dead identified so far, has already been made.

Commissioner of Railway Safety will hold a statutory enquiry. Prima-facie, it would appear that the fire started due to some inflammable article being carried by a passenger in the affected coach.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA (Jaipur) : I would request you to have a discussion on this. The ex-gratia compensation which has been paid, is too meagre. It should be raised

MR. SPEAKER This is your right, I will see.

SHRI RAM DHAN : Accidents are happening frequently.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : The Rail Minister should resign. Just by raising and discussing we will not gain anything.

SHRI RAM DHAN : Rail accidents are taking place. Shri Madhavrao Scindia should resign. When the late Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was the Railway Minister, he set an example by resigning.

12-10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(English)

- (i) Need for expansion of Integrated Child Development Projects in Orissa.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : The most important centrally sponsored scheme in the area of child development is Integrated Child Development Scheme. This

scheme aims at helping the children of 0-6 years of age and nursing and expectant mothers in the backward areas. The package of services under ICDS includes immunisation, health, check-up, referral services, nutrition and health education and non-formal pre-school education. At present 84 ICDS Projects are functioning in Orissa out of which 35 are in rural, 48 in tribal sub-plan and 1 in urban slum locality. Out of 118 tribal developmental blocks in the sub-plan areas 70 blocks have not been covered under the scheme so far. During the current financial year the State Government has recommended to the Central Government to bring 36 more blocks under this programme. Out of total 314 blocks in the State 230 have not been covered under the programmes, out of which 96 comprise sizeable tribal population.

12.13 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The ICDS has made a tremendous contribution to the improvement of the nutritional status of the children and nursing and pregnant mothers in the areas covered by the scheme and, therefore, needs expansion in the uncovered areas.

Considering the severe drought situation of this year and the State's economic backwardness and concentration of tribal and Scheduled Caste population I suggest expansion of ICDS projects in Orissa in a phased manner so that the tribal blocks and also blocks with sizeable SC/ST population can be fully covered under the programme during the Seventh Plan period.

- (ii) Need to establish an independent IAS cadre for Goa State.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : The IAS officers today man majority of top positions in Central and State Governments. They help various State and Central Ministries in formulation and implementation of policies. Under the present rules, roughly 50 per cent of the Indian Administrative Service officers in each State hail from that State and the rest hail from other States. The officials hailing from other States are required to achieve proficiency in the language of the State to which they are

allotted. The purpose is to ensure democratisation of administration and running of administration in the local language. Another objective is to ensure that the local culture, history and ethos is kept in mind while formulating the development policies in the State.

Goa has recently become "a full-fledged State. As an interim arrangement, the top administrative posts in Goa are still being manned by officers belonging to the Union Territory Cadre. There are very few Goan IAS Officers in the Indian Administrative Service. These officers stand already allotted to various State cadres. In order that Goa also should have the benefit of the services of the sons of the soil, the senior officers hailing from Goa, presently working in different States should be asked to join the new Goa cadre. If Government declares Goa as a joint cadre with other Union Territories, such as Andaman and Nicobar, Pondicherry, and Delhi, Goa will in no way be better off as a State than as a Union Territory. It will be deprived of services of Goan IAS officers at a senior level. I request Central Government to establish an independent State cadre for Goa, taking into consideration needs and aspirations of the territory, giving full scope for the Central Government servants hailing from Goa to serve the territory in the best interest.

(Translation)

- (iii) Need to instal a T.V. Tower in Balrampur, Gonda, U.P.

SHRI DEEP NARAIN VAN (Balrampur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise this matter under Rule 377. There is no T.V. Tower in Gonda district. This is an old and important demand of people. It is in the interest of the people that a T.V. Tower is installed in Balrampur (Gonda). In the absence of a T.V. Tower the T.V. users are facing difficulties as the reception is not clear. They have to erect at least a 50 feet high antenna. The area is adjoining the Nepal border. Its population is about 30 lakh. This district remains backward inspite of being well-endowed in all respects. This is because a very important need is not being fulfilled. T.V. is a good medium of education. Gonda is largely a

rural district. Here Tharu (Scheduled Tribe) people live in large numbers. The Central Government is requested to approve the setting up of a T.V. Tower in Gonda at the earliest.

- (iv) Need to provide necessary facilities to the people engaged in carpet making in Mirzapur and Bhadoi areas of Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise this matter under Rule 377. In Uttar Pradesh, Mirzapur-Bhadoi area is a carpet producing and carpet exporting area. In this area, every year on an average about Rs. 200 crores worth of carpets are woven by hand and exported to western countries. We earn sufficient foreign exchange from these exports. Nearly six lakh poor people living in villages and townships get their livelihood. In this area in about 70% of the townships and towns and in about 75% of villages carpet weaving work is done. Carpet industry is a cottage and village industry.

This is an export-oriented and employment-oriented industry of this area. To encourage this industry its all-round development is extremely necessary. But this area is not being supplied with the required power, fuel, roads, medical, educational and other facilities.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to encourage the carpet producing industry in the Mirzapur-Bhadoi area. For this purpose assistance may be given to this area under the special development programme. All appropriate facilities be provided, so that carpet production in this area can be increased to the maximum.

[English]

- (v) Need to withdraw orders banning booking and unloading of goods on Railway Stations situated at a distance of 25 Kms. from transshipment points on various Zonal Railways.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Sir, recently the Railway Board has issued

a circular that the railway stations situated within 25 kilometres from a transshipment railway station, cannot book or unload any goods, either of perishable or general nature, causing innumerable difficulties and huge losses to all sections of people including farmers, businessmen and industrialists. Many chambers of commerce from various parts of the country have represented to the concerned Railway authorities as well as to the Ministry to withdraw this restriction but no order to withdraw this restriction has yet been issued. This unreasonable restriction is not only resulting in loss to Railways but is also helping in the rise in prices of various commodities, including essential commodities.

I, therefore, request the hon. Railway Minister to withdraw the orders.

- (vi) Need to clear the dues by National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives Ltd. to different handloom societies.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : Sir, the National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives Ltd. - the National level Apex Body - a sponsored organisation of the Ministry of Industry - a promotional organisation for marketing the products of artisans, has not paid more than Rs. 27 lakhs payable to different Handloom Societies of West Bengal including one apex Society of West Bengal causing joblessness of few thousand artisans.

The elected Board of NFIC was superseded by instituting legal proceedings against all the elected Directors. The Federation has lost the export market in USSR and that has gone in the hands of private traders.

Internal marketing has also lost all its ground and the Federation is running with court cases, litigations etc. but without any business. Ministry has not come forward to revive the Federation.

I urge upon the Minister to take immediate steps for clearing the dues of NFIC to the different Handloom Societies and help them survive.

- (vii) Need to assess the damage caused by floods in Brahmaputra and its tributaries in Assam and draw up short/long term schemes to rehabilitate the affected people.

SHRI ABDUL HAMID (Dhubri) : Five consecutive devastating floods in river Brahmaputra and its tributaries have caused havoc in Assam. Several villages were washed away due to erosion, thousands of villages were badly damaged, crops worth crores of rupees were destroyed, thousands of domestic animals perished, thousands and thousands of people were rendered homeless and took shelter in temporary camps or embankments. The Government of India sanctioned 27 crores of rupees to meet the expenditure on relief operations. But the minorities who suffered most as they generally live in low lying flood prone areas did not get the benefit. During the rescue operations, the areas inhabited by the minorities were very much neglected as a result of which many lives could not be saved. It is, therefore, prayed to the Central Government to be kind enough to constitute a high powered Central Committee to assess the actual damages caused to the victims and to draw up and implement short and long term scheme for rehabilitation of the affected people.

- (viii) Need to declare birth day of Netaji, Subhash Chander Bose as a 'National Holiday'

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : The Great Revolutionary **SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE**, is known as 'NETAJI' the pride of INDIA. He with his INA fought the British to earn Independence for India. He was President of **INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS** twice. He was born on 23rd January, 1897 at Cuttack. He was conferred the honour 'NETAJI' by **THE FATHER** of the **NATION**, **GANDHIJI**. It is the longstanding demand of the people at India that his birthday be declared as National Holiday. I would request Government to consider this just demand of the people to honour this great son of the soil.

12.23 hrs.

RAILWAY CLAIMS TRIBUNAL BILL AND METRO RAILWAYS (CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS) AMENDMENT BILL CONTD.

[In English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will now take up Items Nos. 12 and 13 together as per the List of Business, that is further discussion of the motion moved by the Railway Minister, on the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill and also Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill. Now, Mr. Tanti, is to continue his speech. I think he is not here. Then Mr. Narain Choubey is also not here. Then, Mr. Piyus Tiraky to speak.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduars) : Sir, the Railway Minister has brought forward a Bill for the establishment of Railway Claims Tribunal for speedy adjudication of claims. Sir, it looks to be good but I do not think it will serve any better. There are already so many cases pending before the Claims Commissioner. The claimants are moving here and there and knocking at the doors of all without any use because of litigations. The same thing is happening in regard to the payment also. They will have to spend much more than what they will get as compensation.

Sir, the Tribunal will consist of one Chairman, one Vice-Chairman and 33 Members, if I rightly remember, and the powers and position and the service conditions of the Chairman and Members of the Claims Tribunal are defined in the Bill itself. But, Sir, the Bill says that there will be a Tribunal which works in 19 Benches in different parts of the country. I do not know what is the financial impact of it; whether in all these 19 Benches the Chairman will be present or a delegated Member of that Tribunal will go there or some other person will be posted in these 19 Benches. The Minister has not so far elaborated it. He speaks of the period of appeal as 19 days. And this Claims Tribunal is not equally constituted as the civil court. So, the Claims Tribunal tries to place all the proceedings and findings before the civil court. The claims Tribunal's judgement

should be treated as equivalent to the judgment of the civil court. Only then the claimant can go for an appeal afterwards if he likes.

Sir, there is no mention in the Bill of the persons of the Committee which will be formed in 19 Benches, whether they will be of railway employees who constitute that Tribunal in different Benches or the users of different social organisations, business community and other public organisations will constitute that Tribunal in different Benches and whether there will be Government employees in the same, that is also not mentioned.

Sir, parallel judiciary is going to be set up just to clear the claims of the individuals who met with accidents or otherwise in the railways. I think, Sir, this process will also be very lengthy because it is not clear whom to address; it is only an application, but whom to address, whether the claimant should address the Chairman or any member or the regional Benches which are going to be formed - it is also not clear.

Sir, I suggest that the railway committees which are already there, the DRUCC, ZRUCC, NRUCC should constitute the Benches. Here, I should like to know whether this Committee will also form as the claims Bench under the Tribunal because this Committee is represented by all societies and organisations of the people of India. This is something apprehended because we have our Government now, and if some reasonable thinking on the part of the railway management is forthcoming, there would not have been so many cases pending.

It is because, after all, when the case is decided, very often the management has to pay. But I do not think, there is any dearth of thinking in the Department itself. They could have realised the sufferings of the poor people and they could have decided immediately and in that case, there would not have been any cases at all. If there are some few cases to be decided, say, in consultation with the Law Department or the Law Department has to be asked or something else has to be done, you can also decide that. Naturally who ravelst in the

railways? Poor people are travelling in the railways. Those who cannot afford air journey or some speedier journey are forced to avail Railways. Internationally the Railway Department do not like to give any compensation at all. Unless they are forced by some-body, they do not pay. Only when the Railways are forced, they are ready to pay compensation. Therefore, it looks as if somebody else from outside India is ruling this Department and managing the Department without caring its own people. Why should the people wait for Tribunal or somebody who should come and intervene and then only they should get something. I suggest that Railways is our Department. Our people are travelling in the railways; they are mostly poor. If anything happens to them, whatever the rules say, that have to be given. They must give relief to help the people. Whatever damage has been done, they must be compensated. Then only, the number of cases can be reduced.

In every matter, whether it is Railways or other Department, weaker sections, those who have no money and the poor people are always harassed and oppressed. They are denied their right. Mr. Madhavrao Scindia is here. He is a young man and we expect some revolutionary action from him. Why should the people wait for such a long time. They are all our people. If that sympathy is there in the Department, in the railways management, the people would not be harassed and they would not be forced to go to the Tribunal at all. Then and there they can be compensated for the losses.

Though this Bill, as he has thought, is intended to speedily clear all the pending cases, perhaps it will not serve the purpose. Clause 24 speaks of transfer of pending of cases. As a Member of Parliament I have also had this experience. Even a small application going from one table to another, in the Rail Bhavan itself, takes months together and perhaps it takes years to get it finally cleared. Clause 24 speaks of transferring the pending cases. It means, the cases are already pending with the Claims Commissioner. To transfer a case, it will at least take 6 months and also to clear that one case it will take time. This is

the system that we are following. Transfer also takes its time. Clause 25 speaks of the Proceedings before Claims Tribunal to be judicial proceedings. Even the claimant has to wait for the judgement given by the Claims Tribunal which is to be of judicial proceedings and if he is not satisfied, then only he can go for higher courts.

This Bill is good. The hon. Minister so far thought that it will be good. But I object to the Bill because of the implications of money, time and transferring the case and the setting up of the regional tribunal in every place and the office, which are involved. From where are they to get the material and typewriters and whether the staff will be Government employees or railway employees and who will recruit them, is not clear. I should like to know everything clearly.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : Sir, I congratulate the Railway Minister that he has taken a bold step for attempting one moving the Bill for Railway Claims Tribunal. Since long there has been a demand for the establishment of such a tribunal and it has now been done at last for which we are all thankful to the hon. Minister.

So far as this Bill is concerned, I may be allowed to point out some of the deformities in the Bill itself. I would invite your attention to Section 6 Clause 2:

"6 (2) When the Chairman is unable to discharge his functions owing to absence, illness or any other cause, such one of the Vice-Chairmen as the Central Government may, by notification, authorise in this behalf, shall discharge the functions of the Chairman until the date on which the Chairman resumes his duties."

This is the deformity. In certain cases, the Central Government may be tempted to nominate the Technical Member as the Chairman which is not in keeping with the spirit of the Bill.

So far as the quasi-judicial element in this Tribunal is concerned, that will be lost if the Technical Member is appointed as

Chairman. That is why I would like as in Clause 10:

(b) a Vice-Chairman shall, subject to the other provisions of this Act, be eligible".

The other provision is that the Chairman shall be selected if he is, or has been, a Judge of a High Court.

In that background, I suggest that this should be brought in tune with the other sections of the Bill.

So far as the Tribunals are concerned, they are going to establish 19 benches. Some principle must be defined in the Bill itself where the benches will be established. I suggest that each Union Territory and each State Headquarter should have one bench so that it will be convenient for the people to ventilate their grievances in the Tribunal.

Insurance coverage must be given to the railway personnel. The Railway Convention Committee stated that the existing procedure of payment of compensation to railway accident victims or their heirs was very dilatory and also discriminatory. It was proposed that as automobiles were already being insured (against inter-alia Third Party Risks) by the public sector, General Insurance Corporation, so also railway passenger services could be insured. The Committee finds some merit in the proposal and they would like the Ministry of Railways to work out an insurance scheme and explore, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance, the possibility of its being entrusted to the General Insurance Corporation.

My submission is that in that respect some steps will have to be taken in this regard. So far as the compensation amount is concerned, this should be paid by the General Insurance Corporation and the Railways will be relieved much of the expenditure and that would be a sound step in that direction.

Another thing which I would like to submit is regarding the dispute between the Food Corporation of India and the Railways. This is a horrible thing. As a matter of fact, the Public Accounts Committee, in extense, examined the matter and

you will find that since 1967 onwards till 1983-84, it was found that 19716 wagons have been missing i.e. not traceable : 17352 wagons were unconnected and not located. This is the situation. In this connectinn. I would like to submit that there must be some improved mechanism to immediately trace out the missing and unconnected wagons.

Another thing relates to the transit loss of foodgrains. Since 1977 to 1985, transit loss in foodgrains - not missing wagons - comes to 20 lakh tonnes which is worth Rs. 500 crores. Sometimes, the wagons are diverted consciously to some other place and in that event there is the possibility of pilferage and it is easy also to do so. Therefore, this aspect should be taken care of.

About the claims, I would like to submit that from 1977 to 1985 - about a period of 8 years - the FCI had claimed about Rs. 43.70 crores against the Railways and a sum of Rs. 16.30 crores has been rejected. However, it does not mention that the Railways did not supervise the loading and unloading operations. The point is that both are Public Sector Undertakings. Unnecessary controversy is going on between them. That is way, I would suggest that some sort of a thing should be introduced so that this unnecessary controversy does not linger on and it will not arise again

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister here that although speedy disposal of the dispute is the purpose behind this Bill, the Government must take not of a number of disputes that may possibly come up in future. Besides, the Government should take note of the fact that the staff and the 19 Benches which have been proposed are not adequate. They must be substantially supported by the required number of staff.

Sir, in Paragraph 3 of the Financial Memorandum, the hon. Minister has given certain details regarding the pay of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Member. I do not know whether it will be given effect to or not. In that, he says that the Chairman's pay is Rs. 8000 fixed; the pay each of the Vice-Chairman and that of the Member is Rs. 7300-7600. Under the Bill, it is within

the rule-making power of the Central Government. I do not from where this figure of Rs. 8000 etc. come up. It may be a tentative figure, But that has not been stated here, My submission would be that so far as the Tribunals are concerned, they should not be treated poorly and everything needed for their effective functioning must be provided.

Thank you.

SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN (Sivakasi) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the two Bills which have been brought forward by the hon. Minister of Railways, Shri Madhavrao Scindia.

The Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978, empowers the Government to quicken the process of land acquisition for the early completion of the Metro Circular Railway system. I happened to be in Calcutta and I had the opportunity of travelling in the underground metro railway system in Calcutta along with my colleagues in the Estimates Committee a few months back. The underground metro railway system in Calcutta is functioning well and it is maintained very well. The Railway Minister and the officials deserve our congratulations for this. We were accompanied by the Divisional Engineer who is in charge of that underground system and he explained to us how it was functioning and how they were maintaining the underground system. That underground system in Calcutta is itself a proof of the efficiency of our Indian railway people and also it is a proof that our Indian railway system is in no way inferior to any other railway system in the world.

Coming to Madras, in 1983 the Planning Commission had sanctioned the circular railway system in Madras from Beach to Luz. The original estimate of the cost of the Project was Rs. 53.46 crores and it is planned to be completed in four or five years. The anticipated cost of the project at the time of sanctioning was Rs. 65.45 crores.

But the estimate has been revised to Rs. 100 crores. In 1986-87 they had allotted only Rs. 8 crores and in 1986-87 they have allotted only Rs. 4 crores. So, they have allotted only a total of Rs. 12

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crores, but the cost has gone up to Rs. 100 crores. I am very sorry to point out that the Railway Ministry is taking up this project in a neglected manner. I want to ask the Railway Minister a specific question namely, when the Madras circular railway system is going to be completed. If the allotment of funds goes on like this, it will take decades to complete this project. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to take immediate steps for the completion of this project. Not only that, the Railway Minister has now taken a stand to ask the State Government to share the cost of this project on fifty-fifty basis. I do not find any reasonableness in asking the State Government to share the cost of this project. Railways come under the Central Subjects and I do not know why the Railway Ministry should ask the State Government to share the cost of this project. The Tamil Nadu Government has allotted land to the Railway Ministry worth about Rs.50 crores. I want to ask the Railway Minister what more they want from the State Government which has limited resources for the completion of this project. So, I urge upon the Railway Minister to take necessary steps for the completion of this project.

KUMARI MAMATA BANARJEE (Jadavpur). Sir I rise to support the two Bills brought forward by the hon. Minister of railways. I support the Metro Railway (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill because I am interested in seeing that the construction of metro railways in Calcutta is completed soon. While welcoming this Bill; I would like to put forth my views about the metro railways. In England when the city of London was having 2.82 million population, they constructed the metro railway and that was as long back as 1863. In America and other countries of Europe also the metro railways were started in the year 1935. Today nearly 75 countries all over the world are having metro railways. In our country the metro railways were started in 1973 in Calcutta. The population of Calcutta is 9.16 million according to the 1981 census. I must congratulate our Railway Minister and his Department also because as a Calcuttan I feel proud of the metro railways in Calcutta. It is one of the best efforts made by our Railway Ministry and everybody should appreciate

that. This is a unique success for the Railway Ministry. Everybody will appreciate the maintenance of the underground railway system in Calcutta. I remember, when some Mayors came to Calcutta to attend the Mayors' Conference, they travelled by the metro railways and they said, "The Calcutta people are lucky enough because they have got the metro railways". We need more metro railways in other parts of the country also, especially in Bombay. The Bombay population is 8.70 million, Delhi 6.4 million, and Bangalore is also a thickly populated city. We the Calcutta people are interested to see that not only for Calcutta but for other parts of the country also, we need more metro railways to solve the transport problem. It is a fact. I congratulate our Railway Ministry and metro railway authorities also that when my State Government was selling all the gardens, all the parks to the big industrialists at that time we have retained our greenery, our park and our garden by having metro railways. Therefore, I must thank you on behalf of West Bengal people.

Sir, I am sorry to point out one thing. I do not know when this Dum Dum to Tollygunge metro railway will be completed. There is some lacuna and there is some communication gap between the Central Government and State Government, as far as my knowledge goes. I am sorry to point out that actually in the beginning, my State Government opposed this project. Our Minister had written several letters to our Chief Minister, that is on 30th July, 1986, 3rd December, 1986, 27th January, 1984, 14th April, 1987, 7th May, 1987, 6th August, 1987 and lastly on 17th September, 1987. But I do not know whether any fruitful result will come out or not. I think, this is not a partisan matter or political matter. The Central Government and State Government should jointly see that the construction of metro railways is completed soon. I am really sorry to say that my State Government is not taking any interest. I do not know, when other parts of the country are interested to start this metro railway in their part of the country, why my State Government is not interested. This Dum Dum to Tollygunge metro railway project is delayed due to State Government. I want to request my

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Minister to take up this Damdam to Tollygunge metro railway project. In this connection, I met the Planning Commission several times to request that this line should be extended from Tollygunge to Gauria because it is a thickly populated area.

Recently, the Government of Japan has desired to provide financial assistance for the metro railways and construction of express-ways in West Bengal. I would like to request that if Government of Japan is interested, then our Government also should see that ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are many speakers who want to travel in the metro railways.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : But, Sir, I am from Calcutta and I know the experience of Calcutta.

There is some lacuna regarding rehabilitation, regarding compensation. It is true that for construction of metro railways, certain building and lands are required by the metro railway authorities. For this purpose, the acquisition procedure is to be initiated as per the Metro Railway Construction Act. I know under the law, the State Government will acquire all this land.

What happens is that the people who had constructed their buildings 70 to 80 years back, this railway authorities are telling that they would be given some compensation. This will affect the land-owners, shop-keepers and traders. They met several times the State Government officials, the railway authorities and even MPs. But we are not able to do anything for them. I am telling you that Ministry should be more sympathetic towards these people because these people have constructed their buildings 80 years back. I request you to please call a meeting where the Chief Minister or any other Minister from the State and the affected party can sit together and come for any amicable settlement. We have to see that these evicted people should not be put to any difficulty. Under the law, the State Government will acquire the land and take necessary action. But I do not know why my State Government is not taking any

interest, in this regard. If the State Government is not taking any interest, then the Central Government has some responsibilities to look after the people of my State. That is why I am requesting you to see the problems of these people also.

The State Government is not interested to acquire the land for the metro-railways. I am giving you one document. In April 1985-it came out in the Telegraph paper on 4th October 1987 - the then Union Minister for Railways, Shri Bansi Lal, wrote to the Chief Minister Shri Jyoti Basu with a similar complaint. The letter Number is 85/W-II/LM/14/22. He specially mentioned two cases of encroachment on railway land**.

He wrote that in both the cases the railway land has been unauthorisedly allocated by the local district administration for the construction of residential quarters. He suggested stern action against the officers who had resorted to unauthorised occupation of the railway land.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : This is one of the allegations, I have to complete it.

Mr. Minister, I would like to know that when the State Government is not taking any interest to acquire the land for metro-railways, then how the State Government is Shri Bansi Lal had already written a letter to the Chief Minister; but there is no response. I will hand over this document to you. I would request you to please see this and try to make it clear that the railway land should not be unauthorisedly occupied by some particular people. Only for the people's interest at large can you keep this land, but not for the people who have vested interest.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No allegations against the State Government will go on record. The correspondence between the State and the Centre cannot be read out without permission in the House.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE :

I have only mentioned the letter number. This is not that type of an allegation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) :

When she went on making allegations against the State, you did not pull her up then. You allowed her to say all that. She is only politicalising the whole issue. We can also respond like that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am saying that if there are any allegations, I will expunge them.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I have mentioned only the letter number. Railway line is not a political issue; it is a people's issue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NARAIN SINGH (Bhiwani)

Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, I welcome the Railways Claims Tribunal Bill because it is extremely essential for the nation.

Various claims in India are pending decision and those looking after them are unable to take a quick decision. Therefore, the opinion of the hon. Minister is not quite correct. I present a few shortcomings in this Bill, which may kindly be viewed by you and the necessary steps be taken.

There will be one Chairman and one Vice Chairman of the Tribunal. There will be lot of expenditure on the Chairman since he is the top administrator. He should be a retired judge of a High Court. He should be a man of good status and a member of the Judiciary. He should be a retired session-judge at least. The Vice Chairman should possess technical knowledge.

Sir, you have stated that there will be 19 Benches but this number is very small for a vast country like ours and will result in the increase in claims and it will be difficult to decide them. Therefore, there should be 76 Benches in the country with one bench allocated to every five districts. Each Bench should consist of judicial officer of the District-Session Judge level, and the

other technical member. So far as the question of time limit is concerned there will be summary trials. Being experienced as a magistrate myself I am aware of the fact that with the hearings going on it takes 1-1/2 year to 2 years. to decide it a case. The summary trial takes at the most two days time. You should see to it that the decision is taken on whatever claim comes within six months. The railway authorities should get the claim amount deposited within a month, the failure of which should result in this losing the right to appeal similarly, the compensation against death claims should be minimum Rs 50 thousand. There is negligence and corruption in the Railways which results in accidents. This should be removed. The public feels that expenditure is made on the main lines and facilities are provided there and no attention is paid to the Branch lines. Therefore, this too should be considered and facilities increased on the Branch lines.

13.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till-
Fourteen of the clock*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch
at Four minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *In the Chair*

**RAILWAY CLAIMS TRIBUNAL BILL
METRO RAILWAYS AND (CON-
STRUCTION OF WORKS) AMEND-
MENT BILL—CONTD.**

[English]

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : Sir, I rise to support the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill, 1987, The objects of the Bill are clearly stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. It is a fact that a lot of obstructions came in the way of acquisition of land and property for the purpose of construction of Metro Railways.

Three types of people are affected at the time of acquisition of land and property. It is true that for construction of metro railways certain buildings and lands have to be acquired by the metro authorities. As a consequence of the acquisition of land and building, three types of people are affected.

One is the land owner or the building owner. Another group affected is the small traders or shopkeepers and third group is the tenants. The first group, that is the building owner or the land owner do get adequate compensation and I feel that they are getting much more than what they have invested at the time of construction of the building or for buying the land. The tenants who have been using this space for their small business are given very little compensation. Apart from that, it is difficult for them to get proper place to start their business again. So, they are in great difficulties. We must know that it is very difficult for the residential tenants also to get accommodation. For their own survival, sometimes they go to the court. Government must consider the rate of compensation for the business people and tenants most sympathetically and pay them the money straightway and not to force them to wait for a long time to get that compensation. I request the hon. Minister to ask the department concerned to pay the compensation straightway and not to make them wait for months and years together. In this connection, I would request that it will be better if the Government can plan to get some place for the small business men for their business. When they are evicted from their place, they become really perplexed and they do not know what to do. I support this Bill because I am very much interested to see that the construction of the metro-railways is completed as soon as possible. I am sorry to say that the work of the metro-railways started in 1978. I will be happy if it will be completed soon and people will get better communication system. The Act had been passed in 1978 and several amendments were brought in 1973 as well. So, even after 15 years, it has not been completed. Delay means increase of expenditure and suffering of the common people. Anybody who have gone to Calcutta must have noticed that a number of main roads are in a horrible condition. The construction started but could not proceed. In most of the cases, it is because of the stay order from the High Court. The result is that not only the local people suffer but majority of people of Calcutta and the people who come to Calcutta are suffering. I understand the difficulty of the metro-railways authorities that the delay is because of the stay order of the High

Court but I hope that after passing the present amendments, the project will be completed within the scheduled time.

My last request to the Minister and to the Metros Authority is that the Metro railways should be extended up to Gauria on the one side and beyond Dumdum on the other side. With these words I support the Bill.

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU (Madras North) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the work on the Metros Rapid Transit system for Madras is much delayed. I need not describe the disastrous traffic hazards in the Madras city. The sufferings experienced by the city passengers is beyond description. Too many accidents daily in Madras city takes away the life of the Madras city people. The MRTS gave some hopes to the Madras people but the extraordinary delay in the execution of schemes now poses a disappointment. It seems that the Railway Minister is insistent on Tamil Nadu meeting the two third cost of the project. Sir, it is the Railway project and when the Railway is spending crores and crores of rupees on many other items, why the Railway is so adamant on the share of the State I want to raise this point. The Railway's control is absolutely by the Central Government. In such a case its primary duty is to provide the MTRS for Madras which is an ancient city. Secondly, there can be no question of State sharing the cost because I understand that was not the concept in 1983-84 when the Railways cleared it. The concept of Railways funding scheme of 67.33 in the State Government for all metropolitan suburban scheme is of recent origin and should not be thought of retrospectively for a project which the Railway has undertaken to execute.

Sir, the MTRS was cleared in 1983-84 and now we are in 1987 but still the project is not yet completed. While it was estimated at Rs. 53 crores some four years back, now, due to escalation it is estimated at about Rs. 105 crores. In four years the cost is doubled. If the Government further delays it, I am afraid the estimation may shoot up to any level. Some months back our Prime Minister has granted Rs. 100 crores for Bombay City development. I welcome this and also appreciate the

gesture. I request the Prime Minister through you, Sir, and through the Railway Minister to show the same gesture to the Madras city also by funding the MTRS. It is an urgent and essential problem. MTRS is a Sixth Plan project to which the Railways and the Planning Commission are already committed. Therefore, the question of sharing the cost does not arise at all. Secondly, even if the Central Government wanted the State Government to share the amount, the ruling party here and the ruling party there are in a consortium mood. I request the Hon. Minister to use his good office to convince the State Government by hook or crook, I request the Minister to expedite the MTRS plan and complete it as soon as possible.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Not by crook only by hook.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU : I do agree with you and that is our anxiety too. It is pending for a long time. Sir, the project was supposed to be completed by 1991. But now it is very doubtful whether it could be completed in the expected time. Now it is going at the snail's speed. But at the same time I must appreciate the Railway authorities. They are spending the amount in a useful manner and in a quick manner. They are using the fund in an appreciable manner. If they are allotted the required fund, I think the MTRS will soon be materialised.

With regard to the providing a road under bridge at Rayapuram Railway Station at Madras North, I have raised this issue in this august House several times and also at the zonal Consultative Committee meeting. The Minister of State for Railways, Shri Madhavrao Scindia, was kind enough to concede my request and wrote to me on 30 April, 1986, stating that and I quote :

"During the meeting of Informal Consultative Committee of M.Ps. for Southern Railway Zone held on 9.8.85, you had raised the matter of providing an over bridge at Rayapuram.

You will be glad to know that after finalizing the details with the Tamil Nadu

State Government, the Railway has included the work of providing road under bridge in lieu of Special Class level crossing No.5 at Km.2/3-4 on Monager Choultry Road between Washermanpet and Rayapuram Stations in Madras area in their 1986-87 annual programme. The construction of road over bridge is estimated to cost Rs.1.73 crores and Railways' share is Rs.98 lakhs. The work on the bridge proper will be done by the Railway and the work on road approaches will be carried out by the State Government. The detailed plans and estimates for this work are being finalized in consultation with the State Government."

I am really thankful to the Minister, Shri Scindia for having accepted this request. On behalf of the people of Madras North also, I express my thanks. But exactly 19 months have gone by and the scheme did not see the light of the day. There is a perennial traffic problem and people who have to go to the Government Stanley Hospital at Rayapuram have to wait four or five hours because the level crossings are closed. I have described the difficulty of the patients who have to wait patiently at the level crossing before they could enter the hospital for treatment. This road under the bridge is estimated at a cost of Rs. 1.75 crores. The hon. Minister had written to me that the work on the bridge proper would be done by the Railways and the work on road approaches would be carried out by the State Government. Though one and a half years have since passed, the scheme is still not executed and completed I request the Minister to immediately intervene and see that the scheme is completed immediately.

Time and again, I have been requesting about the level crossing at Korukuppit in North Madras area. Here, the level crossing are closed for six to seven hours resulting in heavy traffic problems. Madras North is the area where many factories, more particularly even public sector factories are situated. Therefore it is hightime that the railways should provide a subway near Korukuppit Railways Station.

On 7th November, the Tamilnadu Express met with an accident near Nagpur. The Railway Minister told the Rajya Sabha on 9th November that there were clear indications of sabotage.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No reference to Rajya Sabha please.

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : The accident was caused due to damage of the railway track, this was what the hon. Minister stated. The investigations of the Commissioner of Railway Safety and the civil authorities have shown that track keys for about 200 metres at the site were missing. But on the very next day itself, GRP Superintendent had stated in a press statement that there was no sabotage. I think, the hon. Minister alone can clarify the situation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Sir, the Commissioner of Railway Safety has just submitted his preliminary report. The Commission of Railway Safety is an independent authority which comes under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. It is not under us. In his preliminary findings, he has also said that the indication were clear that it was a sabotage.

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : Well, I relied on the statement made by the hon. Minister in the Rajya Sabha.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I am talking about the latest position. We got it just before a day or two.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU : Of course, the very next day it was refuted by one of the railway officials also.

To sum up, I request the hon. Minister to speed up the work on MRTS as well as the Rayapuram road underbridge. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill presented by hon. Railway Minister. Along-with it I also support the Metro Railways (construction of work) Amendment Bill. These amendments will bring a reduction in the cases involving the pilferage of the traders' goods which resulted in a lot of problems and losses to them. Now these

difficulties will be removed to some extent. I, therefore, congratulate Shri Scindia.

I want to bring a point to notice of the hon. Minister. The traders getting the delivery of their goods late by trains do not face as much problems as are faced by those traders who take their cattle by train, in the event of its getting late. The latter definitely faces heavy losses and difficulties. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to make some such arrangement that these problems may be avoided. In this connection, I would like to give the example of passengers travelling by air who are provided free hotel accommodation and food by the concerned authorities in case the flight gets late. A similar arrangement should be made for the traders carrying cattle to far off places like Calcutta and Bombay and the expenses made due to the late arrival of train should be borne by the Railway Department.

I submit that no work has started on the railway line to be constructed in Guna and Etawah for the last three years. I have no knowledge regarding the money already spent on this and the amount allocated for it. A bridge is to be constructed near Etawah which will take a lot of time, but the construction has not even started yet. I request that Etawah and Guna railway line should be constructed at the earliest.

Besides, the godown in the Morena area is very small. Wheat and mustard are sent to Bombay and Calcutta from our side and during rains the foodgrains get wet which results in heavy losses to the traders. We want that a huge godown should be built there so that the goods of traders can be stored there.

I also want that a godown should be built in Sheopur kalan too since there is a big market there.

Arrangements for atleast water etc. should be made at Morena station where traders and labourers work day and night. One more platform too should be constructed there since the present platform where goods are loaded, is inadequate.

With these words, I thank you for the time given to me.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Since Mr. Somu has raised this point, I would just like to tell the House that a Report from the Commissioner (Railway Safety) was received by the G. M. (Central Railway) on 30th November; i.e. yesterday. "Provisional finding of CRS, Central Circle into the derailment of 122 Down New Delhi-Madras Tamil Nadu Express on 7.11.1987 between Katol and Metpanjara stations of Nagpur Division of Central Railway—he says, again, I would like to stress that he is an independent authority not under the Ministry of Railways—After careful consideration of the actual material and circumstantial evidences available, I have come to the conclusion that the derailment of 122 Down New Delhi-Madras Central, Tamil Nadu Express between Katol and Metpanjara stations on the Aml-aNagpur single line BG non-electrified section of Central Railway's Nagpur Division at 13.33 hours on 7.11.87 was due to tampering with fish plated joint.

This accident is classified under the category SABOTAGE."

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I congratulate hon. Minister of State for Railways for presenting this Railway Claims Tribunal Bill, 1987. I thank this enactment should have come earlier in any event, the present Bill will definitely bring relief to the people whose claims are pending before the Railways. I would just like to indicate few suggestion's, I feel should have been incorporated in this Bill. Only these points I would like to mention because the time is very short. I find the purpose, of the present Bill is really good. It has two fold purpose i.e. for inquiring into and also for determining the case. The cases of non-delivery of the animals or goods which are carried by the Railways or for the refund of the charges or assets, these things will come under the jurisdiction of the tribunal. One of the learned Members has already mentioned and I personally think also what relief and or compensation one will get in case a train gets delayed. Suppose some one is taking a patient from Calcutta to Delhi. The train gets delayed for three hours.

The patient suffers. In the circumstance he will suffer since he is not covered by this Bill. He cannot go and file claim before the Tribunal. Equally, in a train some life-saving drugs are being carried—somebody may be carrying them. I am not blaming the Indian Railways. It has definitely improved, thanks to the Minister. But this happens—it is immaterial or is not very relevant to mention for the purpose of this present discussion—but this happens in the case of the Rajdhani Express between Howrah and Delhi. It is late every day at least by 2 or 3 hours. Usually, in the case of any urgent case, patient is carried and/or travelled by the fast train, to get him admitted, or get the patient admitted in proper time. Who is going to pay the compensation? This should be considered. Where is such provision?

There are many clauses. I do not want to go clause by clause. But I find 2 or 3 things. I find that the present Bill has been kept outside the purview of the Civil Procedure Code. It is very good. Thanks are due to the hon. Minister otherwise there will be protracted litigation. It is done for the speedy disposal of claims. I can understand it. But why not have the time specified—At least some time should be specified in the Bill itself, viz. that the Tribunal must dispose of the claims petition within such time. You give sufficient allowance. I know it is very difficult. But when it is kept outside the purview of the CPC, it is not like other civil cases. I do not think there is any difficulty in imposing a time limit for the disposal of claims petitions. Otherwise by the time claims petition is disposed of, the claimant might not survive in this world. This is our very common experience.

Now about clause 7. I find that the terms of the office of the Chairman and of the Vice Chairman are five years each. I feel that this is a very short period. Suppose some case is pending before one Chairman. His tenure is five years, which is very short. It is quite likely that within these five years the claims petition will not be disposed of. Then the other Chairman will take it up; and the entire matter has to be DE NOVO heard by the new man. So this five-year term is a very short period. The Minister may be pleased to consider this point.

Regarding pending cases, I find that clause 15 of the Bill provides :

"On and from the appointed day, no court or other authority shall have, or be entitled to, exercise any jurisdiction, powers or authority in relation to the matters referred to in sub-section (1) of section 13."

Suppose various cases are now pending in various courts. After the appointed day, if it is the intention of the legislation that the entire pending cases will also be transferred, giving them retrospective effect, then again the same problem will arise. Affluent people can afford to incur further expenses—whatever expenses they will incur for further litigation before the Tribunal. But what about poor people, whose small claims petitions are now pending before the small court, or High Court or before any other forum under the Railways Act? They will have to come before the Tribunal again. So, there should be some guidelines. Those pending cases should not be transferred immediately.

Apart from this, in respect of Metro Railway, I will make only 2 or 3 suggestions. I fully support this amendment Bill and I congratulate the hon. Minister again for bringing in this Bill. The whole purpose of the Metro was to provide a rapid transit system. It has already been delayed. So, may I request the hon. Minister to see that at least the Calcutta Metro is completed within the targeted time, viz. 1992? Secondly, according to the existing plan, the Metro is to be extended upto Dnm Dum. It can be extended beyond Dum Dum. If it is done then the area purpose of Metro will be served, because the purpose of the Calcutta Metro is to provide a rapid transit system, for all sections of people.

So, those people, who are coming from outside of Calcutta should get benefit. In Calcutta we are having floating people. Every day more than 40 lakh people come to Calcutta from the suburbs. If the metro railway can be connected upto Belghoria, then the entire north 24 Parganas can get benefit of Metro.

In Calcutta, the other part of Calcutta is totally deprived of the benefit of metro

railway; that has to be considered. Let it be considered by the hon. Minister whether metro railway can be further extended to the east of Calcutta or not.

Regarding compensation, various things have been said before this House. While I do appreciate the view that the compensation should not be given to the landlords only; it should have been given to the tenants only. But those tenants who enjoy certain property by way of residential purpose, they should be given preference, not the businessmen always. Metro Railways people have to be careful at the time of giving compensation; more compensation should be given to the people who have been evicted from their residential houses and then the tenants. Now-a-days it is very difficult to get alternative accommodation. So, they should be given more compensation and also the small traders be compensated. I am not advocating the case of the big business people who have been thrown out of their business place.

Secondly, since 1970 and till today, the Calcutta roads are totally congested and it has become a total mess with the result the traffic gets jammed practically quite often due to various reasons; and one of the reasons definitely is the metro railway not completing their works within the scheduled time. So, once again, I request the hon. Minister—though it is not the subject matter of the present Bill—to see that it should be completed within the targeted date, that is 1992.

With these words, I again congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing forward this amendment Bill for the purpose of removing the lacuna which is existing in the present Act.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH (Chapra) : Sir, I support this Amendment Bill because this project has already started and crores of rupees have already been spent. Otherwise my view is that in future the hon. Minister should not undertake such massive projects for some time. This money can be saved, and used for expanding the rail network in those areas where the people do not have a rail line even 40 years after

independence. This will lead to an all-rounds development of the country. It will also stop the continuous flow of people migrating to big cities in search of livelihood. Hazaribagh, in my area, is such an example. For the last 40 years, there has been a demand to expand the rail network in Hazaribagh but the Government has paid no attention towards it. Similarly, there has been a long standing demand to construct a railway bridge between Pahleja and Digha Ghats on river Ganga. Here too, the hon. Minister seems to have no interest. When such subjects are raised he says that there is lack of funds in the treasury and when funds are available the matter will be Considered. He does not say that when funds are available the work will be done or he will get it done but when funds are available he will think over it.

Metro railway project is being completed because he says he has a commitment. I would like to ask him as to whether there is no commitment to construct a railway bridge on Chikoni Ghat? Is there no commitment for gauge conversion on the Samastipur-Darbhanga route, or is there no commitment to make a railway crossing at the Chapra Kachheri junction? There is a commitment. But it is not a question of whether there is or is not a commitment. You have funds only for those areas in which you have an interest. You don't have funds for those areas in which you have no interest and against whose people you want to discriminate. Therefore, I would like to request you to leave aside matters of commitment or non-commitment, and spend money wherever there is a need for expansion of rail network. I said so because wherever you have an interest or desire you get the work started at places where there is no propriety to get that done. You have decided that some model stations would be developed in the country. You have set down certain norms as to where these model stations would be made. But you throw away these norms to the winds and start building model stations wherever you desire.

In my area there is a station called Siwan in the Varanasi division. This place generates the maximum income in the whole division. All the railway authorities wrote that Siwan should be made a model station but you ignored it and made Allahabad

city as a model station. That is why I say that you work only where you have an interest. Seeing this, the people of Bihar think you are discriminating against them. Bihar is a backward state. If you discriminate against Bihar, a feeling of discontentment will spread in the State. And we know the consequences of discontentment.

The bill that you have presented today was enacted in 1978. Five years later, in 1983, it was amended. Now after 4 years, in 1987, again we are going to amend it. This means that when proposals are made, the people who make proposals do not do it with any seriousness or far-sightedness. Had they drafted these proposals seriously and with a far-sighted vision, there wouldn't have been a need to amend it time and again. The bad effect of amending an Act again and again is that projects are not completed within stipulated time. Alongwith increase in the expenditure by the Government, the debating over the issue by the hon. Members also costs the exchequer a lot. In conclusion, I would request you to expand the rail network in the backward areas I have discussed.

I would also request you that whenever you present a Bill in future, kindly do so after serious thought so that no need arises to amend that after some time.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): Respected Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the present Metro Rail Bill, provision for more time has been made instead of one year. This has to be supported. I also support it since you are not able to do it quickly.

What does the Land Acquisition Officer do? He issues a notification but does not pay compensation within one year. Then people go to court. You should change the Land Acquisition Act and make provision for at least two years instead of one. The provision not being so, people go to court for their small or large houses and buildings and try to protect their houses. They want that whatever house or land they have should not slip out of their hands. These types of feelings exist in their minds.

You should also keep in mind whether the compensation you pay after taking their land, house or shop is sufficient or not. We

will have to think on these lines. If we do not consider these things, then generally whoever loses his land goes to court. In the Land Acquisition Act, for if one person loses, then two persons gain also. From this view point, it seems alright. But the Government should compensate for the losses suffered by the poor and low-salaried people.

Just now our friend mentioned that some thing is done only in those places where the Government has some interest. Hyderabad needs a circular railway. The condition in Delhi is such that 15 minutes are needed to reach one road from another. So greatly has the traffic increased. Therefore, there is a need for Metro Rail here, which in turn needs money. This is also needed in Bombay. Alongwith this, Hyderabad also needs a circular train system. For this purpose, you should do the needful at the earliest.

I would like to tell you that there is a railway station called Adilabad in Andhra Pradesh. But nobody can go there by rail from Hyderabad. It is situated at a distance of 700 kms from Hyderabad and it takes 24 hours to reach there as it is away from the main line. Hence it is very necessary to bring it on the Delhi-Kezipet or Delhi-Madras main line.

Work on Bibinagar Nargudi railway line has not yet been completed. I would like to know by what time it will be completed. Besides this, I would also like to know as to how many railway lines have been laid in Andhra Pradesh after we achieved independence and how many narrow gauge lines have been converted into broad gauge lines. So far as compensation is concerned, I would like to say that when the train reaches late, the passengers have to bear considerable loss. The people bring touratoes and other vegetables from Andhra Pradesh to Nagpur for selling but it gets damaged due to the late running of trains. As a result of it, they suffer losses. For this, they should be given compensation. The Government should take action in the respect without delay.

Some persons have illegally occupied and sold more than 100 acres of land near Allahabad Railway line. I have written three

letters to the department during the last three years and I have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister under Rule 377 but neither investigation has been made into it and nor I have received any reply. What I have to say is that whenever encroachment takes place, efforts should be made to get it removed. Similarly, there should be provision to check the pilferage from the wagons and to give compensation for it.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I am extremely grateful to all sections of the House for having very generously and enthusiastically supported both the Bills which we have presented before the House. I do not think I really need to spend much time therefore on explaining the objectives we hope to achieve, because obviously they are very well understood and generally in principle, they have been welcomed by all sections of the House. So, I would just restrict myself to answering a few queries that have been put regarding these two Bills.

At the outset, Sir, I would like to mention that our objective obviously is for speedy disposal of all the claims which are preferred on the Railways. This is in furtherance of the objective of giving greater facilities to rail users, whether they be users of our coaches in our passenger trains or whether they be users of freight facilities. In any case, we have been thinking about this measure for the last one and a half years and pending this Bill, we had already, right from the time of Shri Bansi Lal, issued instructions that claims should be speedily disposed of. I am happy to tell the House that we are not only trying to expeditiously dispose of all the claims pending with us, but also we are trying to take sympathetic view right at the outset, so that the new claims which are preferred should also diminish in quantum. I would like to inform the House that in the year 1984-85, 4.55 lakh new claims have been preferred. In 1985-86, there was a drop of 6.8 per cent. In 1986-87, there was a drop of 8.3 per cent. In the first six months of this year compared to first six months of the last year, there has been a further drop in number of claims preferred by 20.3 per cent.

Measures have also been taken to expedite the settlement of claims. The total number of claims pending for settlement at the end of the period 1984-85 was 84,919. In 1985-86, we brought it down to 41,000, that is reduced by 51 per cent. Fifty one per cent of the new claims were disposed of in the year 1985-86.

In 1986-87 we have further reduced the pending claims by 30 per cent. The figure now stands at 28,865. As a result of expeditious and proper settlement by Railways, litigation has also reduced. The number of suits instituted in 1984-85 was 29,000 and odd. In 1985-86 there was a reduction of 10.5 per cent. In 1986-87 there was a further reduction of 19.7 per cent. And in the five-month period this year compared to five month period last year, there has been a reduction, in the number of suits instituted by a large figure of 35.3 per cent. But suits pending in courts are still quite large in number. And without the help of this Bill we could not have tackled this aspect of the matter. That is why this Bill has been brought forward. Suits pending in courts are as much as 58,500. of which those which are more than 3 years old, are 25,000. This is the target area which this Bill aims at so that this can also be expeditiously disposed of.

We have also been paying compensation for those claims which were preferred and which were found justified. The amount of compensation has gone up because of the increase in traffic. The gross amount has gone up but the percentage of net amount paid to freight earning the traffic has gone up by a very very large amount-has come down to as low a figure as 0.51%. which, of course, we are also trying to reduce still further. This has meant a reduction in the last two years of approximately 32 to 35%.

Another area which will be looked after by the passing of the Bill, if the hon House so desires, would be expeditious settlement of accident claims. On an average it is taking one to one-and-a-half years to settle accident claims. It is most unfortunate that the Railways have to, in most cases, repeatedly keep reminding the State Governments to kindly give the names of adhoc claims commissioners. This morning

when I was reading the SUO MOTU statement on the recent fire accident in Rajasthan, hon. Members, Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma and Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas, were saying that only Rs. 50 0 - has been given to accident victims, this is much too little and the Railways should be told to increase this amount. I have repeatedly said this - I do not know how many times in the last three years on the floor of this House and on the floor of Rajya Sabha that this ex-gratia amount should not be confused with the compensation amount.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : We are not getting confused. Instead of Rs. 5 thousand, the amount should be fixed at Rs. 50 thousand.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA .
Kindly listen to me.

[English]

An amount of Rs. 5000/- is given for immediate expenses. We want to give an amount which should cover up for immediate requirement. I stand to be corrected. I think, about a year-and-a-half ago this amount used to be only Rs. 2000/- and we have increased it to Rs. 5000/-. I do not want to go beyond this it becomes some sort of a quasi-judicial matter. The ad-hoc claims commissioner has to decide who the successor is and the compensation amount will then be paid to the successor. If the Railways go and pay a large amount to a person who may not turn out to be a successor in future, we will end in a litigation. Therefore, the amount is paid for immediate expenses and then the ad hoc claims commissioner is appointed in consultation with the State Government. After the ad hoc claims commissioner gives his verdict that the successor of this particular deceased is this person, then the amount of compensation which is Rs. 1 lakh in the case of those dead, is given to the successor as per the decision of the ad hoc claims commissioner so as to avoid any litigation. That is the purpose of this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Rs. 5000/- is not compensation.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : That is an ex-gratia amount. The compensation, as hon. Dandavate knows very well, is a hundred thousand rupees. That has also been increased, I think, about two or three years... ..(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Vyas Ji is worried because these cases are not decided immediately.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Sir, as far as the EX GRATIA amounts are concerned, they are paid immediately. In fact, to those who were identified in yesterday's accident, the amount has been paid immediately. As far as the compensation amount is concerned, there is unfortunately this delay because, as I said, constantly we keep reminding the State Governments in a very large number of cases and until we get a proper response from them, until the Ad Hoc Claims Commissioner sits down and decides the cases, there is nothing we can do about it. That is why this Bill is there. That is the object of this Bill. The object of the Bill is to speedily dispose of cases because our sympathy must be evident in our attitudes not just at the time of accident but in our attitudes that follow. After all, the bereaved families have suffered. It is our endeavour to try and show our sympathy, not merely in spirit but also in action and that is why this Bill will take care of those delays that take place.

I will now just come to some queries that were raised by hon. Members. Lot of valuable suggestions also were presented by them. The object of the present Bill is to provide a specialised forum to mitigate the hardship caused to the railway users on account of delays. This does not alter the substantive legal provision of the Railways Bill and, therefore, it does not require a detailed scrutiny by the Joint Committee, as one or two Members had suggested. Besides, it may take a lot of time for the Joint Committee to present its Report. Even after this particular Bill, if it is passed as the hon. Members seem to have made up their mind to pass it - the constituting of these Claims Tribunals is going to take something between six and eight months. Administratively it will take us at least that much time. If we wait for the Joint Committee, which may take anything from

six months to a year and a half, it means we delay this whole process by two years. That is why we are presenting this Bill separately. But later on if the hon. Members feel so, it can always be merged. The provisions of that particular Bill can always be merged with this Bill.

Regarding the number of Benches that are being put up, we are thinking, as I said, of about 19 Benches. But the Bill provides for any number that is required and we will see depending on the load of work. At present, about there to four Divisions will get one Bench. These Benches will also be mobile. So, we will see from the experience. If we feel that 19 is too many, then we may reduce the number, and if we feel that 19 is too few, then it is up to the Government to increase the number also. So, that option has been left open in this Bill.

No fee will be charged in regard to accident claim cases. In respect of claims for loss and damage of goods and for refund of fares and freights, AD VALOREM fee will be charged, but the same will not be more than the court fee now being paid by the litigants. So, it will in one way make preferring one's claim probably cheaper. The composition of the Bench, as has been enumerated in the Bill, is of a Judicial Member and a Technical Member. Some hon. Members felt that may be a Technical Member is not necessary; he may be biased. But this is exactly as per the composition of the Customs and Excise and Gold Appellate Tribunal and the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal. I think a Technical Member is very helpful in these matters and would help speedily dispose of cases because of his technical knowledge and technical experience.

I think I have answered most of the points which have been raised by hon. Member Shri Sharad Dighe. We are going to try and see that the Tribunals speedily dispose of these cases. There was some mention of having a time limit. It is not really proper for us to try and to place any time limit on the operation and the working and functioning of the Tribunal. I am sure that the Tribunal will help greatly in expediting the claims that are preferred.

Mr. Krishna Iyer also mentioned this. Then, he went on to talk about the accidents

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in the Indian Railways which have been very high. It is our endeavour to constantly reduce the number of accidents. In the first year, they went down by 11% and then 10% and this year I am glad to inform the House that Railway accidents as compared to the last year which was a record, low in the Railways. This year there is a year is further a 20% improvement on the railway accident figures. However, this does not mean that we are in any way complacent or we are in any way satisfied. We will keep on endeavouring to improve in this area. He also mentioned about the number of accidents which are due to failure of railway staff. This has come down from 67% to 01%. But in a railway system which is very largely dependent on manual operations still in many areas of working, this is bound to be there. We have brought in a lot of training programmes, a lot of refresher courses and they are having an effect on this course and the railway men have put their shoulder to the task and have responded magnificently. However, we will also try to improve in this matter.

Mr. Krishna Iyer also said that the compensation paid in 1981-82 was only 46 lakhs of rupees whereas the persons who lost their lives are 460 and those injured are 717. He talked about 1981-82 figures and he said that the compensation is not commensurate with the number of those who lost their lives in that particular year. Sir, the amount of compensation paid in a particular year has really got no relationship with the number of casualties in that particular year as it relates to number of cases settled for which payment could be made only in that particular year. There may be a large backlog.

I think that basically all the points that have been raised by the hon. Members, substantive points, have been covered by me and I think that we have taken care of.

Now, we can go on to the Calcutta Metro Railway. A lot of people talked about certain delays that have taken place in Calcutta Metro. I would like to point out that this project was conceived in 1972. But the fact of the matter is that major allotments were only made in this particular project, I think, from 1980- and onwards and we have been allotting, on an average, for the last three years, something like between Rs.

75 and Rs. 85 crore and we have completed all the targets set after 1980-81 and we did complete that section of the metro on time. Our target now is to complete the metro's last section left between Belgachia and Esplanade in 1990-91. But this will be dependent very much on the cooperation of the State Government. Kumari Mamata Banerjee mentioned about this point. I have been writing several letters to the Chief Minister of West Bengal. In fact, I have written to him on six occasions requesting him to try and expedite handing over of 22 plots which are critical to the particular section that we are working on. Of these 22, 10 plots have been handed over but 12 plots remain to be handed over and I would request the hon. Members from West Bengal, from all sides of the House, to try and impress upon the West Bengal Government and the Chief Minister to expeditiously give us plots so that we can meet our targets.

As far as the compensation amounts are concerned, these are decided by the Land Acquisition Officer and if the compensation is too little, as some hon. Members have said, it is up to him to decide and we pay the full amount. There is no delay in payment. Some money is already deposited with him. So, I feel that complaints should be addressed more to the Land Acquisition Officer and the appeal should also be addressed to him. I would, on this occasion, like to thank the hon. Members for having complimented the working of the metro.

But I would very much like to express my appreciation to the officers and staff of the Calcutta Metro who have done a magnificent job. But I am very very clear in my mind, Sir, that we would not have been successful in our task if it had not been for the magnificent cooperation we have received from the people of Calcutta. They have taken great pride in their Metro and it is only with their full cooperation that we have managed to maintain it and run it in the way that it is and. While we back in the glory of the compliments. I would very much very clearly like to emphasise that as much, if not more, is due to the people of Calcutta in making the Metro project a success.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Especially in underground activities :

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : What is the capacity utilisation of the Metro-Is it one per cent?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : About the utilisation of the Metro, because the section between Belgachia and Esplanade is not ready, therefore, we are running services fully meeting the requirements. I cannot give you the exact figure, but we are fully meeting the requirements. Once that Esplanade to Balgachia section is complete, it is then only that the full benefit of the Metro will be felt by the people of Calcutta, and we have also programmes to meet that particular target date and see that there is no shortage of rolling stock also to meet the requirements as of 1990-91 depending on how soon Mr. Jyoti Basu and the West Bengal Government succeed in handing us over those 12 critical plots of land that have still not been given to us. So, I would like to assure the hon. Members that as far as Calcutta Metro is concerned, it is certainly a prestigious project for us, we understand the requirements of the people of Calcutta, not only the people of Calcutta, but the people of metropolitan towns and cities all over the country and it is because of this that we feel that they should not just remain a matter of debate or a matter in which two sides try to score debating points, but we should both get together and try and do something so that we can give a new convenience to cities like Madras, like Delhi like Bangalore, like Secunderabad and like Lucknow, places which are developing very fast. But, for this we do require the operation of the State Governments.

Sir, I would like to point out here that the nodal Ministry for the suburban transport will be the Urban Development Ministry and nowhere in the world does the railways of that country have the sole responsibility of running or of financing these suburban railway projects and therefore, I have been appealing to various State Governments and various other Ministries to adopt a consortium approach to this not because we want to be miserly with our money, we do have

resource constraints and within those resource constraints I fear very much whether we will be able to allot the amount which the suburban transport deserves in the country. That is why I am looking for a way to meet this very very urgent requirement in our country and that is why I have appealed to the State Governments and other Ministries, to join this consortium approach and I am very glad to say that the first State Government to come forward in a very positive manner was the Maharashtra Government and we are jointly implementing the Mankhurd Belapur link which is going to be a very important outlet as far as congestion in Bombay is concerned. Similarly, the Delhi Administration had also shown a very very positive outlook as far as light right railway transport in Delhi is concerned and a Task Force was set up by the Urban Development Ministry, the Task Force has also submitted its report and there have been certain proposals also for financing the Delhi suburban system in the report of the Task Force which is now under scrutiny, under examination and under dialogue. Similarly, Sir, I have also addressed several letters to the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu because some hon. Members raised the Madras traffic transit system problem and we do want ..

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : With regard to Madras Rapid Transport system, even the original cost has come to Rs. 50 crores. Now it has been revised to Rs. 107 crores. It has already been mentioned in Rajya Sabha also. You want some share from the State Government. But actually, in the original estimate, it was not so.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : As I said, there is no point in trying to throw the ball in the other Party court. I can also go on saying, Okay, I will take up the responsibility I can say that. But where do we go from this ?

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : This sub-urban transport budget it completely under the Railway Department. Even in Maharashtra, which you have mentioned, our Prime Minister has given Rs. 100 crores for the development of urban city. I would like to know whether such an amount would be given to Madras now.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : It is not for the city. It is for the development of the State.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU : Why does the Prime Minister not show the same gesture to Tamil Nadu ? (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please Order.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I have got an important point to make. But we are going back from it. What we are expecting is that the State Government also should come forward with a positive response to share the project cost. We have increased the allocation for Madras from about Rs. 4 or 5 crores which we have given originally, as we have added another Rs. 4 crores, I think, to it. So, a total of Rs. 9 crores, we have given this year. But if we really have to make a substantial progress in this, I think, it has to be on the cooperative approach and a cooperative stand has to be adopted and consortium approach should be taken so that State speedily the project can be implemented. This is only my appeal to the Governments. I am sure, they would certainly reflect on my appeal and consider it.

I would like to thank all the hon. Members for having participated in the discussion on both the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill and the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill and for making good points.

Thank you, very much.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU : I want to know, what is the reaction of the Tamil Nadu Government.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : We are short of funds.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we are taking up Railway Claims Tribunal Bill, 1987.

The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Railway Claims Tribunal for inquiring into and determining claims against a railway administration for loss, destruction, damage, deterioration or

non-delivery of animals or goods entrusted to be carried by railway or for the refund of fares or freight to it or for compensation for death or injury to passengers occurring as a result of railway accidents and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 38 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 38 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1. Enacting Formula and the

Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I beg to move.

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will take up the next Bill, i.e. Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill.

The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Metro Railways (construction of Works)

Act, 1978, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"The clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I beg move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.10 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE : SITUATION ARISING OUT OF NATURAL CALAMITIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO DROUGHT, FLOODS AND CYCLONE—

Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will go to next item, i.e. Further Discussion on

the situation arising out of the Natural Calamities, with particular reference to drought, floods and cyclone, raised by Shri Dinesh Goswami on the 24th November, 1987.

Shri Vijay Kumar Yadav, you can continue.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : When is the Minister going to reply ? We have some Committee meetings.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Around 5-30 p.m., the Minister may reply. I request the Members to the very brief taking 5 minutes each.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir this year the severity of floods and drought has broken all previous records. There have been floods and drought in large parts of the country which have adversely affected the economy of the whole country. It is very difficult to calculate the damage caused by it. The floods in Bihar and Assam have caused considerable damage and this damage has relegated the country far behind in the matter of development.

15.11 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *in the Chair*]

Whatever schemes the Government had announced in regard to the agriculture and economic achievements have all now gone away. The situation which has arisen due to the floods and drought the point that the claims made by the Government in this regard were hollow, since the floods and the drought that are prevailing in the country for the last one year have compelled the Government to import foodgrains from other countries whereas the Government used to claim that the stocks of foodgrains in the country was sufficient. That is a separate thing that the Government still claims that it will not let a single person die of hunger. The floods and drought for the last one year have posed a big problem before the Government in the matter of taking up new schemes. Now it is being said that new schemes will

not be taken up and a number of schemes out of the on going schemes will have to be shelved.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the floods and drought have not occurred this year only. There are some regions where floods occur every year and the problem of drought remains in one part or the other of the country. Had the Government been serious in this matter before, evidently the loss, that has taken place, would not have been there and we could have successfully tackled the problem of drought. We could have reduced the loss to a great extent, irrespective of it being a loss of human lives, cattle, crops or any other loss. We should have taken up long term or short term programmes. But generally the Government has not taken up any of the two types of schemes seriously in the whole country. As a result of it the country is facing such problems.

It is strange that one part of the country is ravaged by floods whereas the other part is caught in the grip of drought. Of course, it is submitted in the Parliament that one region or the country where there is a problem of water should be linked with another region where there is abundance of water through a canal. Water from such region where there is abundance of water should be taken to such region where the availability of water is less or which is drought prone.

The Hon. Chairman has rung the bell so I will not speak on other points. Now I will speak on some points in regard to Bihar. Mr. Chairman, Sir, this time the northern part of Bihar has come under the grip of devastating floods and if drought had not occurred in U.P., I think the economy of the whole of northern Bihar would have been severely hit. Although there has been considerable loss there but this loss would have been manifold in our area. I do not say that there should be drought in U.P. but the Government should keep this situation in mind while making schemes in future. There are a number of schemes pending in our area and in some cases the schemes have not been executed, be it Gandak scheme or Kosi scheme. We have been continuously making demand in the Parliament that

talks with Nepal Government should be held and in collaboration with the Nepal Government, such schemes should be formulated as may help us to combat the menace of floods that Bihar has to face.

The water of the Ganga river should be taken to the south from the north through drains, canals and by other means so that water could be provided to those areas which are drought prone areas. My own constituency and district Nalanda have never come in the grip of floods the way they have come this time. There is need to know its reason. It is said that the water was diverted to save Patna and it affected Nalanda and other districts. Of course Patna should be saved from the fury of floods because it is a capital but not at the cost of other regions. The Government should think over it and take up such schemes as to save Bihar from the danger of floods. A number of other schemes have been recommended to be taken up and this matter was raised in the Parliament also. With the execution of these schemes, power can be generated and the flood waters can also be checked and arrangement of irrigation can also be made.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH (Jaunpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the problem of drought and floods.

The drought situation in the whole country is very acute and our district has also been severely hit by the drought. In our constituency there is acute shortage of water. People are not getting drinking water. Maniyan tehsil is one such tehsil about which I have referred to without fail, whenever discussion on drought or floods have been held in the House. There the level of water has gone so low that if we put a bucket in the well to draw water, only mud comes out instead of water. The Government is installing hand pumps to provide water to the people but their number is not sufficient. These are not being installed on the basis of population and the requirement of water in the water scarcity areas is not being met. India

mark second hand pumps should be installed where there is a shortage of water. In Uttar Pradesh, water used to be provided in the villages through pipe lines after constructing water tanks. At present this system has been discontinued. I want that tanks should again be constructed to provide water to the people.

The whole of the district is reeling under drought. The situation in regard to the tube wells is such that at least 80 per cent tubewells are laying out of order in my district and in my constituency. You can well imagine that if 80 per cent tubewells are lying out of order, how for the farmers can be benefited. I would like to say to the hon. Minister that if tubewells function in a proper way, we will definitely be able to cope with the drought. Drinking water for cattle has become a serious problem. If the tubewells were in operation, the ponds and tanks would have been full of water, thereby enabling the cattle to quench their thirst. Non-availability of fodder has further worsened the situation. The Government should therefore take immediate steps to provide fodder and drinking water for cattle.

Besides drought, flood is also creating alarming situation. Mr Chairman, Sir, you are aware as to how severely Jaunpur district is flooded which results in inundation of the entire city and the adjoining rural areas. The crops are destroyed and there is heavy loss of property. To prevent this loss the Government has approved a scheme to construct an embankment at a cost of Rs. 22.50 crores. It should be immediately taken up so that the entire area is saved from the fury of floods. I am confident that the hon. Minister will pay attention in this direction and save the people of Jaunpur district from the vagaries of weather including drought and floods. This would benefit the poor farmers and 'girijans' of the area to a great extent. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Simla):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

There is serious drought in the entire country and acute shortage of fodder,

particularly in Himachal Pradesh, Kashmir and hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh. As against it, at many places crops have been destroyed because of heavy rain fall. This has caused deep frustration among the people of the area. Recently, I had gone to Uttar Pradesh in connection with the inauguration of a bridge. The Union Petroleum Minister and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh were also present on the occasion. We came to know that there is no proper rationing arrangement in that tribal area. Ration should be made available to them on subsidised rates. There is no transport facility in the area and that too should be provided to them. I urge the Central Government to issue instructions to Uttar Pradesh Government to provide ration at subsidised rates in the tribal area of Dehradun and Jaunsar, besides providing transport facility at the earliest.

Much has been said about irrigation projects. Here, I would like to submit in connection with Himachal Pradesh. Without power nothing can be done in our state. Power gives the necessary boost to the progress of the State. A large number of people have been displaced because of Bhakra and Pong dams and they have not been provided adequate compensation. Immediate attention should be paid in this direction so that these people may earn their livelihood. Similarly, there has been a long standing demand for a bridge on Alikhud, where the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had once given an assurance to that effect, but the bridge has not been constructed so far. The construction of the bridge should be undertaken at the earliest. Similarly, the irrigation projects in our state have not been completed so far. This is because adequate funds are not provided. Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi came to our rescue and released 27,000 tonnes of food grains worth about Rs. 7 crores. He gave this assistance when he visited Kulu and Shimla and saw the condition there. The Minister of Agriculture gave compensation to the farmers of Punjab whose crops were destroyed. Similar compensation was provided to the farmers of Kashmir but the farmers of Himachal Pradesh were left in the lurch. I am highly obliged to the hon. Agriculture Minister for

Providing small reliefs to the farmers when he toured the State. There are remote areas in our country like Ladakh—to which Shri Namgyal belongs—Lahaul—Spiti, Kinnaur, and Bharmaur in Himachal Pradesh, where foodgrains are carried on goats back to cater to the needs of the people of the area (*Interruptions*) Let me speak. I speak occasionally and speak very little. I would like to submit that the Central team which went to assess the situation in Himachal, recommended Rs. 36 crores to be given as drought relief but we get only Rs. 18 crores. If all the States have got full relief, Himachal Pradesh should also be given Rs. 36 crores—its due. Our State is adjoining Haryana, Punjab and Kashmir. There is little likelihood of the situation improving in the near future. Therefore, I would urge the Government to provide as much funds as possible. The Hon. Prime Minister too wants that Himachal should be provided maximum assistance. I would request the hon. Agriculture Minister to provide assistance to Himachal Pradesh according to the recommendations of the Central team that was sent there.

With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Respected Chairman, Sir, in each and every session, this House is hosted to discuss about some sort of natural calamity. In the last session, for three days, we discussed about the drought situation in our country and again in this session, we are discussing about it because the suffering of the people due to natural calamities continue as before.

Sir, the floods and drought are an annual ordeal for millions of people of this country. This destroys crops worth crores of rupees. A study by the United Nations' Environment Programme assesses India as one of the worst affected countries due to natural calamities and the study says that about three-fourths victims of natural calamities all over the world belong to our country. This is the sorry state of affairs. All over the country there is a severe shortage of drinking water, especially in Gujarat and Rajasthan. Even members from the other side will admit that cattles

are dying and there is a severe shortage of fodder and already prices are rising sky-high. It is estimated that we are heading for a two-digit inflation. Even the Minister the other day has agreed that such a situation may come.

The success of the Government in facing this drought situation should be assessed by whether the Government has succeeded in providing drinking water to the people affected by drought, whether the Government has succeeded in providing fodder to the cattles affected by drought and whether the Government has succeeded in arresting the prices of essential commodities going sky-high. For all these things the answer is big no. That is why we are forced to discuss it again here in this House. And reports from all over the country also show this.

Prices of all essential commodities are rising day by day. I would like to know what measures the Government intends to take to tackle this sort of a situation. The public distribution system has failed completely. The Government should take immediate steps to provide essential commodities to the people through fair price shops at least in the drought affected areas.

Worst of all, I am sorry to say that the Central Government is trying to politicalise the whole issue. Whether it is Mr. Poojary going to Karnataka and accusing the Government there of mishandling the funds allotted to that State for drought, or it is Mr. Arunachalam who is supposed to be the coordinator of the drought relief work in southern state coming to Kerala and accusing the Government of Kerala for mis-utilising the funds, we can see a general pattern in this. And none other than the Prime Minister of the country had the temerity to go to West Bengal and accuse the Government of West Bengal of not utilising the funds allotted for flood relief properly.

The actual fact is that the West Bengal Government was allotted only Rs. 44 crores for flood relief work. Of this, Rs. 11.75 crores was the margin money and Rs. 10 crores was provided as advance loan. So, the actual amount given to West Bengal

Government for flood relief work comes to Rs. 22 crores only. The West Bengal Government has given the expenditure account to the Central Government. Even the Central Team assessed, as far as my understanding goes, that the Government of West Bengal should be given at least Rs. 70 crores as immediate interim relief and the Central Government has not given that amount. And the Prime Minister goes to West Bengal and makes a statement that the Government of West Bengal has not utilised these funds properly !

I would like to challenge those responsible in the Union Government to give at least one evidence against the State Government of mis-utilising the funds provided by the Central Government. As far as the Kerala is concerned the amount provided by the Union Government for drought relief work is Rs. 29.28 crores. But, Sir, the situation in Kerala is very peculiar. The implications of drought are carried over to some five-six years because our major crops are coconut, cardamom, pepper, etc. These are cash crops. If it is a paddy and there is a drought and then there is a rainy season you get a good harvest but in the case of coconut, cardamom, pepper, rubber, etc. its implications are felt over the next five-six years. The Kerala Government has assessed that 2.54 crore people have been affected by drought in Kerala.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : What is the total population of Kerala

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I do not have that figure. Paddy has been effected to the extent of Rs. 125.17 crores and the damage to pepper is to the extent of Rs. 47.18 crores. The total loss as assessed by the Government of Kerala is Rs. 730.99 crores. Out of this the Government of Kerala has demanded Rs. 604.46 crores and the amount given by the Central Government is Rs. 29.28 crores. Two central teams have come to Kerala and I would request the Agriculture Minister to give us the details of the recommendations of these central teams. What exactly have these teams recommended ? Representatives of all political parties in Kerala came over to Delhi and met the Prime Minister and the Agriculture Minister and asked for an

interim relief of Rs. 201 crores. Taking into consideration the special situation in Kerala and because of this large scale destruction of the cash-crops—these cash crops provided valuable foreign exchange for our country and as such, it affects the whole economy of our country—I would request the Government to provide immediately Central assistance of not only Rs. 29.28 crores but release further amount for tackling the drought situation of Kerala. As for relief measures drinking water was given to the people there on war footing and Government of Kerala has decided to take paddy at the rate of Rs. 225 per quintal. We are proud to say that the Government of Kerala has decided to procure paddy at the rate of Rs 225 per quintal.

SHRI V S VIJAYARAGHAVAN How many quintals have been procured ?

SHRI SURESH KURUP I don't have the figure with me. You can get them from the Government of Kerala

I am proud to say that we have the most effective public distribution system. Considering all these factors, I request the Government again to provide sufficient funds for tackling the drought situation in our State. As pointed out by Hon'ble Members from all sides of this House, the Government should adopt long-term measures to face the drought situation. Of course, various State Governments have given their own assessments about the drought in their States and the consequent loss suffered by them. No doubt the Government has taken up some relief measures but considering the seriousness of the situation and the fact that our country is prone to natural calamities, the Government should adopt long-term effective measures immediately for tackling the situation.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGANNATH CHOUDHARY (Ballia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am obliged to you for having provided me with an opportunity to express my views on serious issues like drought and floods. It is unfortunate that this year the entire country has faced severe drought at a time and

consequently thousands of people have been ruined. Two or three States are such, where instead of drought there are unprecedented floods. The entire country is devastated by drought and floods. This is unfortunate indeed. But I am happy that the Government is providing relief to the drought and flood affected people on a war footing and it has achieved considerable success in it. But the plight of the people is miserable even today and therefore, there is need to pay serious attention to it.

I belong to Ballia district of Uttar Pradesh which is on the eastern end of the State. The district is sandwiched between two rivers namely Ganga and Ghaghra. Tons river also passes through the district. These three rivers bring devastation every year to Ballia. This year there was serious drought in the area and as a result, the crops withered away. The Tutipar canal is a small canal which is able to irrigate merely one fourth of the total area, three fourth remaining unirrigated. The tubewells in the area are not working. To irrigate three-fourth area of Ballia district the Uttar Pradesh Government formulated a scheme under which the work on Sharda Canal was started in 1976 but unfortunately even after 11 to 12 years the project has not been completed and consequently three fourth area is still unirrigated. I, therefore, request that work on this project be expedited. We have to fight the drought with all our might. In this connection I had requested the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh to provide adequate funds for earth work so that the Sharda Canal is completed immediately. This would help not only in providing employment to workers but also expediting the work on Sharda Canal Project, thereby preventing drought in the area in future.

I would like the Government to advise the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh to release adequate funds from the drought relief fund so that the work on Sharda Canal is expedited and the people of the area are benefited in future. The Hon. Chief Minister deserves to be congratulated for having exempted the farmers from the payment of land revenue, but there is resentment among the students because they have not been exempted from paying fees. I would like that the students of Ballia district should be exempted from paying fees.

There are big ponds in Ballia district where water gets accumulated due to heavy rains. But as a result of severe drought throughout the year, the entire crop withered away. However there was some moisture in the ponds and paddy had been grown there, but even that crop was ruined due to heavy rains, at the end of the season. Thus the entire crop of Ballia district was ruined. In such a situation, I would like that the Government should pay special attention to the farmers, labourers and the students of Ballia district so that their welfare could be ensured.

As has been pointed out by one of my friends, all the tube wells in the area have gone out of order and cannot be utilised at this time of need whereas the Chief Minister has all along been issuing Statement to the effect that all the tubewells will be made operational, but if the tube-wells are unable to provide at the time of need they would be of no use. Later on even if they are rectified they will not be utilised of much use.

I would like that proper arrangements should be made for drainage of rain water. It is good that the farmers have been exempted from paying land revenue but I would also like that they should be given subsidy on fertilisers for the Rabi crop—on which we are dependent—so that they could increase the Rabi production. Besides, I would appeal to the Government to encourage the farmers by providing them power and water at lower rates. I would like the Government to consider it seriously and work for the welfare of farmers. Ballia has received mere Rs. 50 lakhs in two instalments as relief to the drought affected people which is just like a drop in the ocean. What can be done for the betterment of workers of Ballia with a small amount of Rs. 50 lakh? If the Central Government really wants to help them and to work for the welfare of workers and farmers, it should release at least Rs. 5 crores for the drought affected people of Ballia.

I do not want to take much of your time because I know that the Government is aware of the problem of Ballia which is on the eastern end of Uttar Pradesh. It is sad that no Minister ever visits the place.

to assess the situation. I would like that for the welfare of workers and farmers of Ballia the Government should give subsidy in fertilisers, power and water besides providing at least Rs. 5 crores as relief.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON) : Is Ballia a town ?

SHRI JAGANNATH CHOUDHARY : Ballia is a district. The Hon. Minister has brought up the subject of welfare of farmers and labourers of Ballia district. In this context I would request him to send Rs. 5 crores in assistance so that people there are benefited.

The Hon. Minister is present here. I have been trying for the last three years that an Agriculture Science Institute may be opened in Ballia for the welfare of its farmers. You have assured me that Ballia is being given first priority. But I don't know when that No. 1 will come. I feel that the Government has not done this work due to lack of funds. I would request the Government to give you more funds for this work.

DR. G.S. DHILLON : When the entire quota has been finished, he is placing it at No. 1. Now he is waiting for funds to arrive from somewhere so that its turn can come at No. 1.

SHRI JAGANNATH CHOUDHARY : I am very grateful to you that you have given top priority to Ballia for opening an Agricultural University there. But I request the Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to urge the Hon. Prime Minister to provide necessary funds to the Agriculture Department so that maximum benefits can be availed of from those funds.

With these words I express my deepest gratitude to you. I would like to thank you for letting me express my views on the critical situation arisen due to floods.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I welcome today's discussion in the House on floods and drought. There was a lot

of discussion on this topic in the last session also. The drought in our country this year has booked all past records. This time the drought has created a lot of problems for us. Our Respected Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has toured the flood-affected areas and seen whether relief supplies are reaching the affected people or not. He has also sent assistance in the form of loans and fodder for the cattle. Besides this, assistance has also been provided to farmers during sowing and growing time. I have got a copy of the G.R. It is mentioned there as to what assistance can be provided to the farmers under various rules. I do not want to go into its details. But I will only say that all general rules laid down under the auspices of NABARD and according to the notice issued by the Finance Ministry, should be followed. Whenever there is a drought of floods the farmer is not able to pay his debts. On failing to pay debts he becomes a defaulter. The system of re-scheduling after becoming a defaulter has been down. One who is not a defaulter avails of all such facilities. Through this the Government converts their debts from short-term to medium term and from medium-term to long-term. You have never tried to analyse how a farmer can fulfill his debt commitments in times of floods and drought.

Therefore, I request you to provide some relief to farmers who have defaulted due to drought or floods. This may be done by converting their short-term debts to medium-term and medium-term debts to long-term. This would prove beneficial to farmers.

Now I would like to say something about crop insurance. I have a book on this subject where everything has been explained in detail. But I do not want to go into its details. It has been seen that the results in this direction have not been good. The insurance money is given at different rates in different places. I have discussed a lot on this topic in the past. I suggest that all villages falling within the purview of one revenue circle should be grouped together and a uniform rate should be fixed for them. It has been seen that in some Tehshils 10% insurance

money is given while in others 20% is given. Even farmers who become bankrupt due to floods and drought get the same amount of insurance money. Hence, this position must be rectified. When we complain to the General Insurance Corporation, they tell us that all problems are born out of taking only one block or one Tehsil or one area.

As to the question of monitoring, the General Insurance Corporation does not do any monitoring. I think some Government agency is monitoring it. If the crop insurance scheme is implemented properly then it can work very well in drought affected areas. If you find some defect you may rectify it. Besides branch or tehsil, the area should be limited to the extent of the of the revenue circle.

My third suggestion is that due to drought conditions for the last three years it has not been possible to sow anything on 435.79 lakh hectares of land. Nothing could be cultivated on this land and due to total drought conditions income has declined the country. Due to drought we are incurring heavy losses and the farmers are suffering. I feel the number of bonded labourers is increasing, and the relief works going on are insufficient. In Maharashtra we run Employment Guarantee Programme there is no shortage of relief works but when I look at other States I find the number of bonded labourers increasing. Under these conditions what steps can we take in this direction, this we should see. So my third suggestion is where drought occurs for three years continuously, there the Government should waive interest on loans. We only request you to waive interest on loans not the principal money of the loan. Where drought is experienced for two years, 75% interest should be waived and where drought is experienced for one year interest upto 50% should be waived. In the regions which regularly come under the grip of drought, rate of interest should be low, it should not be more than 6 per cent. This will improve the condition to farmers.

We have been listening for the last 6 to 10 years, and it has also been discussed in the House several times, that the rate of

interest charged from small and other lower classes of farmers should be 4 or 6 per cent. For paddy sowing, some loan is given but the interest charged and the burden of loans both are increasing. You are requested to bring about changes in the loan structure.

Fourthly, I would say something about drought areas. In the drift irrigation system the question of water policy is involved. The subsidy on drift irrigation in the areas which often come under the grip of famine should be 100% and for other categories of farmers it should be up to 75 per cent. Otherwise the drift irrigation which is a new technology will not prove to be meaningful as only the rich farmers will benefit from it and the farmers suffering from drought will not be able to derive any benefit. Those who want to irrigate large areas of land with less water will find it difficult to do so. Therefore, I give two suggestions for improvement and conclude in few words. I request you to give me two or more minutes.

Regarding Land Development Bank, I would submit that its recovery norms have not still been suspended. As far as minor irrigation scheme is concerned until you suspend its recovery norms, particularly for this year, nothing will happen. Without actually suspending recovery norms, the announcements on Radio and Door-darshan regarding credit for digging wells, lift irrigation and other things will hardly prove useful. I have tried to understand the working of the Maharashtra Land Development Bank and I feel there is no way out except to suspend the norms.

Then, keeping in view the recurring droughts, it has become necessary for us to have a National Seed Policy.

[English]

This is a high time.

[Translation]

The coordination is lacking between Universities and State Governments in Research Institute, and whatever High Yielding Varieties we have developed require more water. Therefore, how can

we think that dryfarming is possible with less water. We must develop seeds which may be sowed in drought affected and lowmoisture areas. Otherwise National Seed Bank and Regional Seed Bank should be established. Due to the drought conditions sometimes 100% replacement of seeds has to be done. Farmers, then, find it very difficult and are not in a position to take any effective steps. I propose that a National Seed Policy should be formulated and greater coordination in research for the benefit of farmers suffering from famine, drought and floods should be established. It is essential lastly I would say that everything is done during drought. In Maharashtra under the Employment Guarantee Programme only the productive relief works are undertaken which are useful in irrigating land and construction of ponds and canals. Money can be saved by supplementing the plan expenditure with the money spent on relief works. This will bring some benefits to the people. The production capacity of land the farmers will go up. Farmers will keep on deriving more benefits and the output of the country will go up. I again request you to think over the question of suspending recovery regarding Land Development Bank and formulating of National Seed Policy.

16.00 hrs.

Government deserves congratulations for the dedication with which it has worked this year. With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI D.L. BAITHA (Araria) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for the opportunity you have provided me to speak. You are aware of the fact that in India all the states of, especially Eastern and Northern region are the worst sufferer of heavy floods. You are well aware that all the rivers of North India emerge from the Himalayas. These rivers prove to be boon for the States through which they flow as they can play a chief role in irrigation provided there are no floods, but you will see that for the last three-four years, especially, Bihar has been suffered from floods. This year, floods in all the big rivers in Bihar i.e., Ganga, Sone, Kosi, Gandak and Mahananda have caused havoc

not only to the whole Bihar but Assam and Bengal too. This year flood is one that never witnessed in the history of Bihar. It is not possible to leave it to the State Government to keep control over the floods.

16.02 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM
in the Chair]

In this connection my suggestion is that the Government of India set up a commission to suggest ways and means to control the floods. I understand this problem could be discussed with all the concerned countries such as Nepal and Bangladesh who too are equally affected by these floods, since these rivers after emerging from the Himalayas in Nepal pass through Bihar, Uttar Pradesh Bengal and Assam. Unless the Government of Nepal also helps you, you will not succeed in this task.

The soil that flows down the rivers keeps on getting deposited on the river bed. As a consequence, water holding capacity of the rivers gets on declining day after day. As a result thereof, rivers are flooded after rains because of their low water holding capacity and surrounding areas are submerged in flood water. There is no provision of cleaning the sedimentation in the rivers whereas all these provisions do exist abroad. You do construct embankments but after a few days it is again in same situation. You will have to see to the causes of these floods which cause a loss to crops, houses and roads, and people too face a lot of problems. Special attention needs to be paid to the such states which suffer heavily due to floods. The roads constructed under the N.R.E.P. which could provide relief to the people, have now totally been damaged. The State Governments are required to be given sufficient assistance by the Centre in order to fulfil all these tasks. Financial assistance is also required for the construction of damaged embankments and link roads constructed under the N.R.E.P. in the villages.

There is a drawback in the crop insurance scheme. It has been provided for

that the insurance benefit can not be given unless at least 50 per cent farmers of the block suffer losses. Therefore, there is a need to bring necessary changes in the rules. N.R.E.P. work should also be started without any further delay so that people get employment. Labourers who used to get work during the harvest season, have been rendered jobless because of there being no crops to harvest for sowing season is also running out fastly. Though seeds are available, it will also require water for irrigation. But that embankments have got broken and no repair has been done so far. Therefore my submission is that free electricity should be provided for the tubewells so that farmers can get the maximum yield from the crops sown by them. No matter how much aid you give, the farmer won't feel relieved until he gets a good harvest and reasonable profit therefrom. There is a need of speedy implementation of the provisions made by you.

In this connection I want to say one more point. A condition has been laid for giving fresh loan to the farmers that it will not be given to the persons against whom the amount of previous loans is outstanding. But in order to get the farmers overcome from such a serious situation, above condition must be waived.

I hope that hon. Minister will consider my suggestion so that people will be able to get some relief. Leaving it all on the mercy of State Government will not serve the purpose, arrangements should be made to provide help by the Central Government. In order to enable the State Governments to bring the serious situation under their control, they should at least be given the assistance which they have sought for. With these words, I thank you for the time you have given me.

***SHRI S. THANGARAJU (Perambalur):**
On behalf of AIADMK Party I wish to say a few words while participating in this discussion on drought situation under rule 193.

**The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.*

Drought and floods, staryation diseases arising out of these are not new to the Indian sub-continent. Indian sub-continent continues to be affected by floods and ravaged by drought. This is a peculiar natural phenomenon. Though this year, the damage due to floods is comparatively less, the damage caused by drought condition prevailing on account of continuons failure of monsoons is extensive. Even the hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has called the present drought conditions as the one never witnessed in the recent history.

As I had already pointed out, though the present drought conditions have no parallel in history in terms of damages wrought, as far as Indian sub-continent is concerned, drought is a continuous and common occurrence. No body can deny this.

In 1960, the number of persons affected by drought in India stood at 15.5 M. This has registered a staggering rise of 191 M. last year. This points out to the severity and continuity of drought conditions in India. Statistics say that this year more than 14 States and 6 Union Territories have been severely affected by drought. Cultivation has been adversely affected in 75% of the cultivable lands. This has created a steep fall to the tune of 42% in the total food production in the country. The fall in food production has resulted in rise in prices of essential commodities. 14-15% of rise in consumer price of indices can, thus be attributed to this fall in food production due to drought. Unless a solution on permanent basis is found to the perennial problem of drought, I doubt we will be able to improve the economic conditions of the teeming million of this agrarian country in the coming few years.

No doubt, other States have also been affected by drought severely. But the severity of drought in Tamilnadu has further intensified by continuons failure of South West monsoons. The Cauveri delta areas and the areas irrigated by other rivers and rivulets used to have two harvests every year. But today, due to the severity of drought condition, the farmers could not even have a single harvest. The farmers

in these delta areas start sowing in the hope that at least by the time the plants take root rain would come. But their hopes go in vain since rains fail. Farmers as well as the landless agriculture labourers have been thrown out of employment. Nearly 6 lakhs of them in Trichy and Thanjavur districts have been rendered unemployed. Responsibility for rehabilitating these agriculture workers, though squarely lies with the State Government the Central Government cannot absolve its responsibility of providing financial assistance to the programmes of the State Govt. in this regard. These agriculture labourers are totally dependent on agriculture. These agricultural lands are entirely dependent on rains and rains have successively failed. These labourers are suffering from the pangs of penury. Alternative employment, therefore, to be provided to these unemployed landless labourers. Employment is, nevertheless, being provided to them under the NREP, IRDP and RLEGP programmes. The severity of the drought has constrained the State Government to demand an assistance from the Central Government to the tune of 391 crores so that relief measures could be expeditiously taken. The Central Government has provided only Rs. 28 crores.

The Central Drought Relief assessment Committee visits all the drought affected States. The respective State Government projects the factual figures and plead with the Committee to provide the necessary financial assistance. However, on return the Central Govt. under the conselling of the Committee releases only a paltry sum. This is the biggest tragedy of the drought relief measures. Whatever is asked for by the State Governments must be provided by the Centre considering the severity of the drought conditions prevailing.

Next is about the hydel power generation. If rains fail, hydel power generation declines. In Tamilnadu, this year, the hydel power generation will only 1370 M. units against a capacity of 4384 M. units due to scant rainfall. This means a 75% fall in hydel power generation. Power supply to industrial units has been gravely affected. Power supply for irrigation purpose has also been affected. Fresh electricity connections to motorpumps used in

irrigation could not be given due to fall in power generation.

As I said, drought is an annual visitation in the form of a disaster. A permanent solution should be found to this problem. Though we have urged in this august House several times before that Ganga with Cauvery be linked to find out a permanent solution, no progress has so far been made in this regard. The proposal is in cold storage. Immediate steps must be taken to evolve a plan for linking Ganga with Cauvery. Even many NRIs have come forward to finance this Ganga-Cauvery link project. I would like to know from the Minister whether this is true. If capital is forthcoming from NRIs for this scheme, then Government must examine NRI investments in the project.

The Central Government has recently levied asurcharge of 5% on all persons whose annual income exceeds Rs. 50,000. I welcome this step.

We must also pay attention to the damages caused by floods. The State Government has constructed many roads and bridges after labouring for many years. However, flashfloods cause huge damage to these roads and breach the bridges. The cost of reconstruction and repair of these roads and bridges is borne by the State Govt. as instantaneous repair the structures are essential for transportation of men and materials. This eats away nearly 3/4ths of the Scarce resources of the State Government. In such matters the Central Governments must immediately steps in and provide the State Governments with adequate funds so as to tide over resource constraints. A reserve fund for these purposes must also be created for the purpose of managing the situation arising out of these natural calamities.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHAIK (Kalahandi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, drought in this country is not an isolated phenomenon. It is a part of the global worldwide change of atmosphere. Therefore, we have to view it from a global perspective. For that we have to take a total view of the issue and have a comprehensive well-integrated and

well thought out strategy to fight out the drought and I would appeal that all the efforts are needed to convert the present drought into an opportunity.

Because of this drought we are going to have a loss of food production, that is a shortfall of 10 to 12 million tonnes against our target and expectation of 135 to 140 million tonnes in 1987-88, which is a shortfall of 7.9 per cent. But we have a buffer stock of 23 million tonnes. I we give a boost to the Rabi and we provide all subsidies and fertilizer, a large amount of fertilizer, then this shortfall can be managed to a large extent. And also, there will be a shortage of edible oils and pulses. That is why there may be some shortage in power, and agriculture based raw materials and there is an apprehension or a tendency of a crisis arising. There will also be some strain on foreign exchange because we have to import edible oil, petrol, diesel and also some sophisticated rigs in order to provide drinking water.

There will also be an impact on the industry and, that will result in shortage of production also on some industries those manufacturing equipment like tubewells, fertilizers, etc. Replacing or digging wells should be encouraged. Especially export oriented industries have to be given special encouragement. I think we can create more employment in the process.

Sir, I must congratulate the Prime Minister and this House that because of this sincerity of purpose, because of his forthrightness, and because of the inherent strength acquired by the Indian economy and comparatively quicker response of the Government and Parliament to the drought conditions, it appears that this drought would not cause as much heavy dislocation of the economy as it was feared earlier.

Also, the Plan size has not been cut and allocation for irrigation has been increased to Rs. 260 crores. Also, because of the massive drought relief work it will lead to increased purchasing power of the rural people so that the recession in the industry can be minimised.

Here, I want to give some suggestions.

As per the Eighth Finance Commission's recommendations, the States which are in the grip of the drought should be given the entire Plan assistance as hundred per cent grant. Also, States like Orissa should be treated as special category States, unlike Assam, or Jammu and Kashmir. Otherwise the State of Orissa can never come forward in the national mainstream.

Simultaneously, there should be some assured wages and assured jobs.

Declaring the drought period for the whole year, not merely for the time when there are no rains or the normal period of crops will also be helpful.

Adequate supply of subsidised seeds, fertilizers, power etc. should be there. One most important aspects is also giving money, as an incentive or loan by some nationalised banks to those peasants who have been in the grip of a drought for the last five to ten years. For example, in my constituency Kalahandi the farmers are not able to repay the loans and that is why they are the defaulters, and they are also not able to take any financial help. So, keeping this aspect in view, we have to give them reasonable help in terms of giving liberal loans. Thus we have to provide them financial assistance and loans. Otherwise they can never improve and they can never come out of the difficult situation.

There should also be a curb of all luxury goods, and there should also be a ban on all luxury goods. Petrol, diesel and energy should be completely diverted for agricultural purposes.

There is a need for expansion both in terms of items and areas coverage so far as our public distribution system is concerned and we should give more thought to Food for Work Programme, NREP and RLEGP. We have taken the historical measures, that is Mobile Van and Hot Sale. We should give more importance to these measures and more allocation should be provided. In all the ITDC blocks, we are providing Rs. 1.85 for rice and Rs. 1.55 for wheat. There should be only ITDC block. Also, in the areas which were severely affected by drought, where low income and

middle income people resides, this scheme should be adopted.

Then, Crop Insurance Scheme should be implemented properly. All water sources should be tapped. In regard to dry farming, utilisation of modern technology should be given more importance. More allocation, should be given for dry farming, social moisture conservation, live stock development and more blocks should be included under DRDA and ICDS programmes. Simultaneously we should give more importance to fodder, if necessary we have to import also, because we are morally committed for that. All the efforts should be made for providing drinking water. There should not be any compromise on this aspect. Also there is one other aspect, that is land reforms. If we do not think of land reforms, then we cannot give justice to the poor people and we cannot meet the situation well.

I thank our Prime Minister for having created an agency to ensure that there is a financial discipline and proper financial management. I earnestly appeal to all the Members that in the name of natural calamities, there should not be any political motivation. We should have a dispassionate and humanitarian attitude on this matter.

Lastly, in areas which are most backward and where fifty percent of the people are living below poverty line, the districts like Kalahandi, national level and district level planning should be made. There

should be a special development board and both the State and the Central Government can should liberally finance to this board. I appeal to the Government that a National Drought Policy should be evolved aiming at for providing drinking water, fodder, jobs, restoring ecological balance intensifying social forestry, power conservation and efficient water management.

SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI (Sikkim): Today we are discussing with particular reference to drought, floods and cyclone. We are very much concerned about the situation which have arisen because of these calamities.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister if the Government have any agency not only to study the causes and nature of these calamities but also to make the Government to face such calamities before hand and to save the people from undue suffering. Apart from drought and floods, we are having land slides and cyclone. Landslide is also an equally devastating natural calamity which play a havoc in the economy of the country in the hilly areas. The impact of monsoons is very heavy on the northeastern States including Sikkim, but Sikkim is the most affected State by this menace. Though Cherrapunji in Meghalaya gets the highest rainfall, Sikkim is the worst affected by the land-slide menace because of its topography geological setting as geologists maintain that Sikkim mountains are very young and in the process of setting. Sometimes, almost one side of the hill comes down in a flash of a moment taking within its grip roads, villages and Government establishments. It also takes within its grip agricultural land which is a very costly commodity in hill areas. Road construction is a very difficult job in hill areas. But in a minute the whole stretch of road finishes in landslides causing of hardship to hill areas. This year, South Sikkim suffered very heavily and many parts of Sikkim remained cut off from the capital and the whole State was cut off from the rest of the country. I must say with regret that people in Delhi, particularly our planners, are not able to appreciate our problems caused by landslides. Recently, Mr. Pilot, Minister of Surface Transport, visited Sikkim and he had also faced the problems we are facing day by day. He was virtually on the road for 8½ hours. From Bagdogra to Sikkim it takes 3½ hours but due to landslides it took 9 hours for him to reach Sikkim. I hope, he must have told his experiences to the concerned Ministers here.

I would like to request the hon. Minister to institute some sort of research in Sikkim to study the causes of landslides, because the personnel who are working with the Border Roads Organisation and are doing a very commendable job, say that occurrence of very heavy landslides comes after five years. It that

is so, there should be some research made to study this claim as to why this is so and to find out some measures to prevent this.

More funds should be allocated to Sikkim for afforestation not only to prevent landslides but also to prevent floods in the plain areas.

Regarding the damage caused by the last monsoon rains, Sikkim Government had submitted a memorandum to the Central Government and it requested for a grant of Rs. 22 crores to restore roads and Government establishments which were damaged but only an amount of 4.5 crores was released. I request the hon. Minister to re-consider this and release more funds so as to help the State Government to restore its establishments and road communication.

With these words, I would like to thank you for giving me the time to speak.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : I have only two points to make. One is that I do not agree with my hon. friend from the CPI (Marxist) when he said that the Government had failed in meeting this challenge of prolonged drought and repeated floods. In any other country faced with such a crisis for such a long period, the achievement of our Government in preventing the repetition of the kind of hunger deaths that had taken place in 1943 in Calcutta would be termed as a ritual. Fortunately for us there have been no hunger deaths or large scale prolonged suffering on the part of the people who have come to be affected both by floods in certain areas and drought in certain other areas. For no fault of ours, for the fault if at all, anybody can be held responsible for the unseasonal and unexpected behaviour or failure of the monsoons, it must be those in charge of atomic power, nuclear arms and all the tests that they have been carrying on, which must have upset the atmosphere in the clouds and in the far away space high above. But otherwise, it is nature that has afflicted us, has been very unkind not for one year, but over a period of years. Floods we have had repeatedly, drought for such a prolonged period we have not had for a very long

time, but they have come, they have visited us. Had the Government tried to meet this challenge or not? I consider that the Government has tried its best and met this challenge more than half way and helped the State Governments and on its own also. It has carried on the programmes which were devised, which were fashioned after the *garibi hatao* campaign that was initiated by Indira Gandhi.

But at the same time, are our resources enough to meet this challenge satisfactorily and prevent the sufferings of our people? My answer is 'No', in the negative. And I have thought about it not only now, but for a very long time. As long ago as in 1972 I wrote to the United Nations and also to the Food and Agriculture Organisation and special Conferences which were convened at that time suggesting that there should be on a world scale a World Famine and Floods Insurance Fund to be built up by annual contributions from as many of these countries as possible especially those countries which have got some viable financial position, from time to time whenever such colossal natural disasters overtake any country or a number of countries, contributions could be expected from that Fund, but unfortunately at that time the world was not prepared to consider that, not even the United Nations, not even the FAO, not even the Government of India. There was my friend, Morarji Desai, who was the Prime Minister then, and he had a very confident Food and Agriculture Minister, a great friend of mine. Both of them said that they would not be able to take it up with the international authorities. Not only that. They even argued against it for fear that other countries might try to interfere in our internal affairs. But now the time has come when the Government has got to give serious consideration to this suggestion, and I am very glad the present Agriculture Minister, Sardar Dhillon, had the moral and political courage to go and plead before the international forum not so long ago, 568 for an organisation, on a world scale, such as Insurance Fund, I felt very happy indeed. At long last, a Minister of the Government of India had come forward to make this suggestion in an official manner a suggestion that has been made by me so long ago and supported by a number of

Kisan friends in our country. My friend, Mr. H.M. Patel does not happen to be here. At that time, when I was making this proposal, he was also a non-official Member like myself. With all his experience in the Government of India of a very high order, he associated himself whole heartedly with the suggestion. But unfortunately when he came to be a powerful Cabinet Minister, his own Cabinet at that time was not prepared to support this. I wish to congratulate our Government for having allowed our Minister for Agriculture, the Cabinet Minister and Senior Minister to make this proposal and place it before the international forum. Ways and means by which it has got to be organised, got to be financed and the finance to be utilised between different countries which have been afflicted by this natural disaster, and all such things are very important details but they have got to be discussed later in a serious manner in the international forum as well as in our own national forum. But the most important thing is for the Government to take up this proposal, to make this proposal once again, to put some flesh and blood into it through their own experts and then make a proposal more or less in a detailed fashion, before the F.A.O. as well as the World Bank and other authorities which may come to be interested in this vital matter. It would then give some chance for such big countries as India too to gain support in some fashion or the other but in an effective manner from other countries which are more fortunate at that time when any natural calamity afflicted them so that they can supplement their own resources with the resources that would be coming from other countries also.

I would like to add one or two points. One is in regard to what my friend, a friend of the Kisans, Mr. Patel has said. In regard to credit, you are also aware of it because you are also an agriculturist. Our farmers have borrowed money again and again over 3 years. All these debts have accumulated with penalty rates also. Now this problem has got to be solved. Some means have got to be found, some plan has got to be formulated quickly in order to lessen the burdens of the farmers from the accumulated

debt. In addition, the Government should be prepared to persuade the nationalised banks as well as the Reserve Banks of India to provide funds and advance them to our farmers in order to enable them to purchase fertilizers, other inputs and also finance their current agricultural operations and also for the next year. Unless quick enough steps are taken, big enough steps are taken in this direction, it would not be possible for us to prevent the failure of the quantum of production that we expect from our agriculture in the next one or two years. India cannot afford to be complacent in regard to this matter. God forbid, if in the next one or two years, similar catastrophe were to descend upon us, what would be the fate of our country? Would it be possible for our country to go on feeding our people in the manner in which we were doing in the rural areas as well as in the towns and preventing mass level starvation if such a calamity were to take place unless we go more than half-way, indeed unless we go fullstream in helping our kisans to stand on their own legs and finance their agriculture operations?

Finally, something has got to be done in regard to prices. So far as kisans are concerned, they have got to be protected as consumers as well as producers and as producers, inputs have got to be placed at their disposal at reasonable prices and I am glad Government is coming forward with supplementary Grant to the tune of hundred of crores of rupees by subsidising fertilizers upto Rs. 2,350 crores and similar steps will have to be taken in other directions also.

I hope the Government as a whole and the Planning Commission would have the foresight and the moral courage also and the rural-mindedness to stand by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and help them in these directions.

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat) : Mr. Chairman, the country is facing the worst drought of the century.

*The speech was originally delivered in Malayalam.

It has caused extensive damage to crops and serious shortage of drinking water. The hon. Prime Minister has taken a series of measures to provide immediate relief to the effected people, and I whole-heartedly welcome them. The Government has taken very important decisions to meet the drought situation by giving it top priority. As Ordinance was promulgated to raise Rs. 550 crores. This amount is to be spent on relief work. Similarly the expenditure of many departments including the Defence department has been cut down in order to provide quick relief to the suffering people.

Sir, according to statistics 265 districts are under drought and 28.54 crores of people are affected. Crops on 454.20 lakh hectares of land have been affected. Thus the loss is colossal and therefore we must tackle it on a war footing. The Government has fixed a ceiling on expenditure for 1987-88 at Rs. 820.046 crores. But with this amount you cannot solve the problem of drought. Therefore, I would request that the ceiling on expenditure on drought should be raised substantially.

The Government has been spending hundreds of crores of rupees every year to face the natural calamities. According to an estimate Rs. 2800 crores were spent during the 6th Plan for providing relief from drought. Similarly during the first two and half years of the 7th Plan more than Rs. 1300 crores have been spent on relief work. The economic experts say that by the end of the 7th Plan we will have spent as much as Rs. 4500 crores for providing relief to the drought effected people alone. You must remember that this whole amount was spent merely for providing temporary relief. The fact is that no permanent solution could be found so far. Therefore, I would request the Government to include in the Plan schemes which can provide permanent relief to the people affected by natural calamities.

Many hon. Members have spoken about the general aspects of drought and I do not want to go into any details about that. I take this opportunity to bring to the attention of the House certain problems being faced by my State Kerala. There are 14 districts in the State and all the 14 districts

are affected by drought. As many as 1450 villages in the State are affected. 2.54 crores of people are facing miseries due to drought in the State. According to the estimate prepared by the State Government loss of paddy crop is Rs. 125.17 crores. The loss of coconut is Rs. 266.53 crores and that of pepper vines is Rs. 47.18 crores. The total loss of crops is estimated to be Rs. 730.99 crores. The Government of Kerala has demanded Rs. 604.46 crores. On the basis of the report of the Central Study Team as well as the recommendations of the high-level Committee for relief the Government of India has fixed a ceiling of Rs. 29.28 for Kerala. Besides, an amount of Rs. 10.50 lakhs for increasing vegetable production and Rs. 2.75 crores for completing the on-going a irrigation projects has been released by the Centre. But I can't help saying that this amount is quite inadequate. With this amount effective relief cannot be provided to the people. Loss of crops and shortage of water are being felt in all the districts of Kerala. The condition of cash crop is quite alarming. Replantation of the cash crops is a time consuming work and it takes many years for these cash crops to grow and give yield. In the case of coconut and rubber the growers will have to wait for 6 to 7 years to get the yield. The farmers who lost these crops have lost their only means of livelihood and they will suffer for a long time. Therefore, the Government must pay special attention to their problems.

Sir, of the 14 districts of Kerala Palghat is the worst affected. Palghat is considered to be the granary of Kerala. But there is extensive loss of paddy crop in this district. This district has been facing severe drought conditions continuously for the last 3 or 4 years. In the beginning of this year 11 villages in Palghat district were declared as drought affected which went upto 131 later and now as many as 156 villages have been declared as drought affected. The drought condition is particularly severe in the Attapadi and Kozhinjampara areas of the district. Attapadi is the adivasi belt. The total loss to the drought in the district is Rs. 69 crores. In 1986 when the Prime Minister visited Kerala he was appraised of the special problems of Palghat. When he addressed a public

meeting at Trichur he had said that Palghat has some special problems and that they would be attended to by the Central Government. I hope the Government of India will carry out the assurance given by the Prime Minister. I do not want to inject politics into this discussion. But I can't help saying a few things about how the Government of Kerala is dealing with drought situation in the State. Sir, in Kerala we have Marxists led Government which is less interested in providing relief to the people and more in making political capital out of the miseries of the people by putting the blame on the Centre. They did not apprise the Central Study Team of the true facts about drought in the State. The Study Team was not given an opportunity to have discussions with the representatives of the people. Similarly the team was not taken to Palghat which is the worst affected villages in the district. What is the purpose behind it. The purpose was to send the Study Team back without letting them know the full facts. Then they would be able to put the blame on the Centre for not giving adequate assistance. Under the technology mission our Prime Minister sanctioned Rs. 4 crores for solving the perennial shortage of drinking water in Palghat. Even this amount could not be spent properly by the State Government. Shri Arunachalam, the Minister of State incharge of drought relief work in South has seen for himself the condition in Kerala when he visited the State and he effectively supervised relief work there. I agree that more money need to be given to the State for drought relief. At the same time I must say that the State Government is being less than honest when it does not spend the money given by the Centre and makes political capital out of the situation.

Sir, the farmers of Palghat are in great distress. They are not in a position to repay the loans. They have lost their chief means of livelihood and the life itself is a question mark before them. I therefore demand that the Central Government declare a moratorium on repayment of agricultural loan. Same is the condition of the agricultural labourers who have no work. They are virtually starving. The Government should provide them permanent work pending which they should be given

free ration. There are many cases of deaths due to Cholera due to the consumption of contaminated water in many parts of the district. Compensation should be paid to the families who have lost their members due to Cholera. Arrangements should be made on a permanent basis to provide drinking water. Shortage of drinking water is a perennial problem in this district. A must find a permanent solution to it. The Adivasis of Attapadi should be provided with permanent work and I would suggest in this connection that the khadi and village Industries Commission set up village industries for this purpose. Finally, I want to make another suggestion. The Central Government must set up monitoring cell to see whether the amount given by it is being spent properly by the States. It has been our experience that problems remain unsolved if they are left entirely to the States. Therefore, the Central Government itself should make suitable arrangement in this regard.

Before I conclude I must briefly refer to what my friend Shri Suresh Kurup said about the procurement of paddy. Sir, I want to tell the House that no procurement worth the name is taking place in Kerala. It is a big joke. The price fixed by the Kerala Government is so low that the farmers cannot sell paddy at this price. So the claim of the Kerala Government about procurement is not based on facts.

I request the hon. Minister to pay serious attention to the suggestions I made. Thank you.

SHRI RAM NARAIN SINGH (Bhiwani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, discussion has been going on since morning that a vast areas of the country are in the grip of drought and the economic condition of the people has deteriorated. The three districts of Haryana, bordering Rajasthan are the worst affected by drought. Forty years have passed since we got independence but we have not been able to find a permanent solution to this problem. A noted agriculture scientist Shri M.S. Randhawa, a retired ICS officer and who served as the Vice Chancellor of both the Punjab Agriculture University and the Haryana Agriculture University had once

said that we could get rid of the problem of floods & drought provided Government was serious in its efforts to solve the problems. Firstly, dams are required to be constructed on rivers to harness their water into canals for irrigation and secondly, for the fields where canal water cannot reach due to the high level of the ground, electricity is generated and provided to tube-wells. Drains are required to be constructed to drain out water from the low lying areas, where water gets accumulated. Had the Government taken the suggestion of Mr. Randhawa seriously, the problem of floods and drought would not have arisen. The Government has not been serious in its efforts and thousands of crores of rupees have been spent drought the last forty years on during and floods. Had SYL canal been completed in time, Haryana could not have suffered from drought. At present, eight-districts of Haryana are suffering from drought. Both Haryana and Punjab had started work on SYL canal together, whereas work in the areas falling under the jurisdiction of Haryana has already been fully completed ten years ago, but Punjab has not completed the construction of canal in its jurisdiction. The Punjab Government promises that it will be completed, But Chief Engineer Shri Gill had been making false promises. Last time, he was about to retire when the Akali Government came into power, who gave him extension in his service twice. As Punjab is, at present, under the President rule, the Punjab Administration be directed to retire him and post an energetic engineer in his place or the work be handed over to some central agency which complete the construction of SYL canal in time. It will help in the implementation of the Punjab accord in toto...(Interruptions)

D.R. G.S. DHILLON : You must have read in the newspaper today. The Punjab Government had said that they will complete the SYL canal by the end of March this year.

SHRI RAM NARAIN SINGH : This is not first time that I have read it, I read it earlier also. Last time it was said that it would be completed by 31st March, 1987. Now they say that the canal would be completed by 31st March 1988. The

Engineers, who are constructing Aquaduch on the Sarsa river, say that it will be completed by 31st March 1989...(Interruptions)

D.R. G.S. DHILLON : The old friend of Chaudhary Devi Lal is coming tomorrow...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NARAIN SINGH : If you get the canal constructed as early as possible, no one will seek assistance from you. As Prof. Ranga Sahib has rightly stated, that the small farmers, petty shopkeepers and artisans do not have repaying capacity so something should be done for them. Our beloved Chief Minister Chaudhary Devi Lal is kind enough to write off a loan amounting to Rs. 227 crore pertaining to the small farmers, poor labourers and petty shopkeepers. Now, they have heaved of sigh of relief. All this has been done with the fund of the Government. If the Government so desire, nothing is impossible. When you can write off loan amounting to Rs. 300 crore pertaining to those persons who cannot repay loan on the basis of back date, why loans cannot be written off in the case of small labourers and shopkeepers. That is why lakhs and crores of rupees have been spent in providing relief since independence. If dam had been constructed on Ravi-Beas rivers, Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana would have been benefitted from it. A plea is taken that the Government have no funds for it. But lakhs of rupees have been spent on organising festivals in France, U.S.S.R., America and England on cultural activities despite the fact the people of this poor country are starving and there is no fodder for the cattle. You surpassed over even the then Nawab of Lucknow in extravagancy on cultural activities. In view of the hardships being faced by the people and the prevailing situation of drought in the country, the Prime Minister should put a ban on such extravagant celebrations and there should be some curtailment in the Government expenditure. Elections are to be held after two years. With which face we will seek votes from them. What will happen, if cattle begin to starve in want of fodder ? It is, therefore, my request to Shri Dhillon Sahab to ensure that the work on the canal be completed by 31 March, 1988. It will benefit Haryana a lot.

Another point that I would like to mention is that the cost of production of farm produce is estimated to be Rs. 200 per acre. The farmers of Punjab and Haryana will not get a single pie from it. It will be better if you give them Rs. 100 as relief. They will be grateful to the Government for this. They are in great distress. You should provide central grants to them. The population of Haryana is 1 crore 40 lakhs. You have provided Rs. 36 crore to them. But the population of Nagaland is 8 lakhs and you have provided them more grant as compared to Haryana. Dhillon Sahib, I know you for the last twenty years and I hope that you will definitely help us.

[*English*]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA (Jaipur) : Sir, I beg to differ with you. I am not Nawal Kishori Sharma but I am Nawal Kishore Sharma

[*Translation*]

I rise to speak on the grave situation caused by the natural calamities in the country. Often and on, grips the country in the form of drought, famine and floods. But this year the severest drought of this century has been caused by the fury of nature. The Government should think over it seriously and take immediate steps. I am sorry to say that despite the persistent efforts of the Prime Minister, the Government machinery is working in the same old fashion and there has been no change in it. I would like to say a few points in regard to Rajasthan. Rajasthan is a backward state due to the geographical and historical reasons. Two third area of Rajasthan is in arid zone and remaining one third area is in semi arid zone. Rajasthan had been administered by the kings and jagirdars who ruled the state before independence. There has been no development work in the state before the independence. They did not pay attention to the work relating to development taken place there....The Congress Governments have undertaken a lot of development works after taking the reign of administration in Rajasthan. Rajasthan is fortunate on this count. But we cannot match Gujarat. Rajasthan has been suffering

continuously from drought for the last 4 years but this year, it is the severest one. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to his statement given in this House on 9th November in reply to a question asked by Shri Kamla Prasad Rawat, wherein data about "Crop Area Damaged" was given. According to that statement, standing crops on 108.53 lakh hectare of land have been damaged in Rajasthan which is the highest in the country, followed by Uttar Pradesh where standing crops on 102.28 lakh hectare have been damaged and, then comes the number of Gujarat where standing crops on 71.00 lakh hectares have been damaged. But on going through the pattern of assistance it is most unfortunate to find that there is no rationality in giving assistance to the States. I am again inviting your attention to the same statement of 9th November, that as against a sum of Rs. 434 crore demanded by Rajasthan Government, only Rs. 147 988 crore was provided to them last year. Rajasthan got Rs. 0.98 crore this year whereas Uttar Pradesh got Rs. 155.736 crore last year and Rs. 20.206 crore this year. I am not against this allocation to Uttar Pradesh because that state is the biggest state of our country which sends 85 elected Members to the House. Evidently, U.P. is politically more heavy weight as compared to Rajasthan which sends only 25 Members to the Lok Sabha.

[*English*]

PROF. N.G. RANGA : What is the population of U.P. ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : It is not the question of population Rangaji.

[*English*]

You should understand that it is the crop area damaged that should be the guideline and not the population of in so far as drought assistance is concerned.

[*Translation*]

I was submitting that I failed to understand the rationality of the "pattern of

assistance". I could not understand on which basis the assistance was provided. On the one hand there is a state where rivers like Ganga and Yamuna flow and on the other there is a state which has to bear the burnt of drought year after year and which has been in the grip of severe drought for the last four years. What was the basis on which the central assistance was provided. May I know it.

I am thankful to the hon. Minister for visiting Rajasthan. He himself saw the condition of drought affected people and the severity of drought prevailing there. Some other Ministers were also kind enough to pay visits to the state. They gave assurance to the people of Rajasthan that they would provide them ample assistance. But what is the state of affairs at present? The second instalment of assistance has not yet been provided. Due to this, in Rajasthan, people are finding difficulty in getting work on daily wages. The financial position of the Rajasthan Government is not such as it may be able to provide assistance to the drought affected people from its own resources because its 90 per cent source of income is committed. The Rajasthan Government is driven to a situation where it has been compelled to stop all development work such as projects relating to school, hospital or other social welfare. Work on them has not yet been restarted. The State Government is quite unable to undertake the development work due to financial constraint. In order to save people from dying of starvation, Rajasthan Government diverted its resources to sustain the people instead of using it for the development work.

Hon. Minister, Sir, Shri Jagannath Pattnaik has just quoted saying that the states which are in the grip of the drought should be given entire plan assistance as hundred percent grant. I would like to read out the relevant portion of the recommendations of the Eighth Finance Commission :

[English]

"For expenditure on drought, the Seventh Finance Commission recommended that the State concerned should contribute from its Plan, the

contribution being subject to assessment by the Central teams and the High Level Committee on Relief. Such contribution is, however, not to exceed 5 per cent of the Annual Plan outlay, and is to be treated as an addition to the Plan outlay of the State in that year. To enable the State to make this contribution, the Centre provides assistance. If, however, the expenditure requirement as assessed by the Central Team and the high level committee on relief cannot be contained within 5 per cent of the plan outlay, the extra expenditure is to be taken as an indication of the special severity of the calamity, which would oblige the Central Government to assist the State to the full extent of the extra expenditure. This assistance is to be given half as grant and half as loan, is not adjustable against the plan assistance of the State."

[Translation]

The English Finance Commission has given these guidelines. There is also a circular of the Joint Secretary of the Finance Ministry with it. It has been stated in it :—

[English]

"Where a calamity is of rare severity, it may be necessary for the Central Government to extend assistance to the States concerned even beyond the mentioned schemes."

[Translation]

These are the instructions of the Central Government. The Government has issued circulars in this regard. The recommendations of the Eighth Finance Commission are there. I would like to ask whether you will follow these instructions in favour of those States like Gujarat, Maharashtra and Orissa. We are here to help them and not to leave them to their fate.

The people have no purchasing power. It is a good thing that the Government is sending wheat for them. But how they can sustain themselves when they have no purchasing power. So need of the hour

is to generate employment and provide funds to generate employment. The Rajasthan Government has almost become bankrupt. I am not wrong if I say this. The condition is that the payment for work to the labourers in connection with the drought relief work pertaining to the last year was made this year. If such condition persists and the labourers engaged in the drought relief works do not get wages in time, there is no use of undertaking such relief work.

17.14 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Team visiting to the drought affected states have got lengthy procedure. To my mind, till to date, no decision has been taken on the report submitted by the team regarding the amount to be sanctioned for drought relief. The amount sanctioned earlier has been fully utilised.

Till now, no decision has been taken on the additional memorandum submitted by the Rajasthan Government. It is my humble request to reduce these bureaucratic delays to the extent possible. Greater co-ordination within the Ministry is required so as to ensure disposal of the cases granting relief to the people under one table.

According to the indications available till now, Central Government has made commitment for providing funds amounting to Rs. 1,111 crore for drought relief, out of which a provision of Rs. 650 crore has been made in the budget itself. Government will be spending another Rs. 500 crore in excess of the budget provisions. Against this, Government have decided to raise money amounting to Rs. 3,000 crore for drought relief.

An amount of Rs. 650 crore will be saved by way of curtailing expenditure. Government is going to mobilise Rs. 500 crore by way of additional taxation which I welcome. Some Foreign governments as well as the World Bank are also lending their help in this work. Government has received some aid from F.R.G., France And U.S.A. Japan is extending a loan of

Rs. 225 crore to the Government. Thus the Government has been able to mobilise to the extent of Rs. 3,000 crore. I fail to understand as to what is the hitch in providing relief to the states specially when funds are available and foreign governments and world banks are lending their helping hand. Finance Ministry is delaying sanctions.

I, therefore, request the hon'ble Minister to bring about changes in the procedures for the benefit of the people. The confidence of the people in democracy is shattered if they don't receive relief in time, because the relief received after the need is over is useless. Therefore it is requested that the adequate relief be provided without any further delay.

I would like to say one thing more. Unfortunately this year the practice of giving material component has been dropped. If material component is not given, only temporary work will be undertaken like construction of kuchha roads, etc. Irrigation projects cannot be undertaken without material component help. These will bring disgrace to the Government as well as to our people representatives because kuchha work is susceptible to corruption. In Rajasthan for the last 2-3 years, good work has been done in creating permanent assets, there ore you must reconsider to revive the practice of giving material component by allowing exception to the rules. At the All-India Conference, it was decided that the material component would not be given, but this need not be strictly applied in Rajasthan because of the unusual conditions prevailing there, otherwise corruption will become rampant and government will be blamed for not doing anything worthy. Therefore, I again request you to reconsider the question providing material component because in Rajasthan and Gujarat the possibilities of undertaking temporary work are negligible there the Government must grant permission for starting permanent work.

[*English*]

I am making a maiden speech in this session as a Member of Parliament. Therefore, please do not restrict me.

[Translation]

I was making submission that some minor and medium irrigation projects of Rajasthan have been pending clearance with the Government.

DR. G.S. DHILLON : Whether you want to say, say it frankly, you might become Minister.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : I have nothing to comment about this except that I greatly value your opinion. I was saying that some minor and medium irrigation schemes of Rajasthan have been pending clearance with the Planning Commission for a long time. In order to solve the problem of drought in Rajasthan on permanent basis, it is imperative to give clearance to these minor and medium irrigation projects early so that work can be started immediately. The hon. Minister is requested to impress upon the Planning Commission to give clearance to these schemes early and get the work started on these schemes.

I hope that for the welfare of the people of Rajasthan early clearance will be given to these schemes, for which people of Rajasthan will be remain grateful to the Government. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI D.P. JADEJA (Jamnagar) : Sir, I am grateful for giving me this opportunity but I am sure the House will agree with me that the time that has been allotted to this important subject is much less than what we were expecting. We request for extension of time. I fully endorse the views expressed by my senior colleague, Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma. He has spoken not only on behalf of Rajasthan but I am sure he also means that the same situation is there in the neighbouring State of Gujarat.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to another fact that even in the same State whether it is Rajasthan or Gujarat, on one side we have fresh green forests and on the other side, there are desert areas where no human beings can ever live. It is the part of

Saurashtra of Gujarat that I would like to mention now, i.e., the State from where I come. This is an area which was at one time a wooded forest area, plantation, and cattle were there in that area. We had cash crops like groundnut and cotton growing there. Sugarcane also used to grow. But now none of these crops are to be seen there. I do not want to blame anybody. Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma said that there is something wrong in the basic planning of these areas which require drinking water as well as water for irrigation. The result is that in my own home district, in my town, Jamnagar, the district headquarter, which has a population of 3 lakhs has one reservoir for drinking water. What has happened today ? That one reservoir is not enough; there are now four other reservoirs within an area of sixty to seventy miles and the water earlier used for irrigation purposes has been brought to the city for purposes of drinking water to the city people, whereby the agriculturists have been the sufferers. That is what I call faulty planning. But this year the situation is something different. As I said earlier, the areas in a State differ from place to place. Mine is an area on the coastal region. It is nowhere near a perennial river; it is nowhere near a lake from where you can get drinking water. It is a region where you cannot drill deep down in the soil to get sub-soil water because there is no sub-soil water. If you go deep, it is all brackish and saltish. What happens to an area like this ?

In my city, the municipality used to give us water for three hours a day every day. This was in normal years. Today the situation is that the city gets water for fifteen minutes on alternate days and that too, the Corporation has said and everybody agrees that by the end of January next year, the water sources in the city would dry up. Today, the city depends on wells and hand-pumps, but those have also been sealed by the Corporation. Now, there is no source of water. By the beginning of February, Jamnagar and all the taluka headquarters of the district will have no drinking water at all. This is an area where in normal years during the last few months of summer, water is brought by tankers. But this year, we will not be able to get water by tankers because the

tankers will have to go a few hundred miles to get drinking water. There is a scheme to bring water by pipeline for Jamnagar city and they say that up to August, 1988 Jamnagar will get drinking water by this pipeline. But is that a permanent solution? It is very costly. Is the pipeline going to solve the problem of these areas permanently?

I have been repeatedly requesting the Government that you should treat these areas in a separate way; you should not treat them as other parts of the State or the country. In such areas you must bring in modern technology and try to have desalination units. I know it is quite expensive. But there is no other alternative other than desalination by osmosis process. There is the only alternative for the regions of Saurashtra and Kutch. I am talking of the coastal towns and coastal villages which are more than a hundred and cover a population of almost fifteen lakhs of people.

I would like to know from the Government whether they have considered a separate scheme for this region only. I am not talking of the whole of Gujarat or the northern region of Gujarat; I am only talking of the coastal region of Saurashtra and Kutch. Do you have any special scheme to give them enough water this year? And what is the permanent solution for this?

I will take the liberty of only asking a few questions to the hon. Minister. The situation is very bad in that region and by February and March and before the Monsoon, there are going to be riots as far as drinking water is concerned. Nobody is going to be able to control that inspite of whatever the Government may say. I come from that area and I know what is happening there. From February, March onwards the people are going to snatch water from each other, they are going to steal water and there are going to be riots for water. This is the right time for the Government to consider and go in for a special scheme for that part of Saurashtra and Kutch. May I know from the Government if they will consider this? There are modern and latest technologies to bring water from the sub-soil, or to

convert the sea or brackish water into drinking water or even have a recycling system. Why does not the Government encourage the NRI, our friends who want to help our brothers in this country, and allow them to send these units. But the Government is insisting on the custom duty and excise duty. At such a time Government should consider such a proposal that if an equipment which is not available in India, such as equipment for drilling or for convert in fresh water, is imported from other country it should be exempted from the customs duty.

Another point which I would like to bring to the notice of the Government is about the cattle. Whatever the figures may say, whatever you may say, and as some authorities said that no cattle has died and that cattles are being looked after, but I would like to tell you that as far as district is concerned, 50 per cent of the cattles have perished. I do not know whether they have died, migrated or they are living in the cattle camps but 50 per cent of the cattles have disappeared from our region. Now what will be the result of this? For the next season there would be no bullock to plough the field. And if somehow the farmer does manage to plough the field he will not have enough money to buy seeds and fertilizer. So, I would like to know whether the Government is considering any special scheme for these drought affected areas to help the small and marginal farmers? With the Land Ceiling Act, I think every farmer has a small land of his own. So, I would like to know whether the Government is thinking of providing these farmers with seeds and fertilizers for their next season?

Then another point to which I would like to draw the attention of the House is about the Oil Mills. In one district alone in Jamnagar, there are about 130 oil mills which depend entirely on the groundnut crop. For the last two years they are not getting any raw material. These mills are about to be closed or in fact some of them have already been closed. I am not talking on behalf of the oil mills but think of the thousands of labourers who work in these mills owners alone. So, will the Government consider the proposal to

provide the mills with good variety of imported oil seeds at least to the oil industries situated in the drought affected area, be it in Jamnagar or Kutch or for that anywhere else.

Now, about the rural people. I am not talking of the people who can afford to walk 5 to 7 miles away from the village, but what about people who cannot leave their villages and go outside for work. Why does not the Khadi and village industries or the small scale industries come into the picture here? Why cannot they support or give some extra assistance to these people? For example in my district, there is a Khadi industry and a village industry. Now, at this point of time when these Government should have given more assistance to these drought affected areas, we find that they are not even providing the necessary raw material. We do not even go to them to collect whatever is being prepared by them in these small scale industries. I would like to draw the attention of the House to this point, though it is concerned with another Ministry, this can be used as one of the measures for providing the drought relief.

Sir, we find that in the villages several anti-social elements are raising their heads. People are being looted, cheated and exploited. So, is the Government thinking of having a voluntary force or a special police force to protect the life and property of these villagers?

Sir, I am very sure that the disease is going to spread in this winter. We have not realised it now but in the late February and March there will be the shortage of water and that is the time when disease will spread. What steps the Government is taking to tackle this problem? Here I would like to bring to the notice of the Government a scheme that has been prepared by which drinking water can be made available to every village and every town in the Saurashtra and Kutch regions. This Rs. 600 crores project which has already been prepared will solve the drinking water problem throughout Saurashtra and Kutch, and what is more important, not a single penny is to be spent by the State Government or the Central Government.

Why cannot be welcome this scheme and implement it in time? As Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma has stated just now, if we do not do it today, tomorrow it will be too late for us to do anything at all. Let the Government give a serious consideration to these suggestions and please bring in schemes with modern technology which are going to give real relief to the people of rural and urban areas especially those who live in drought prone areas and more so in the areas along the Coast of Saurashtra and Kutch.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are passing through a very severe drought and flood situation. And due to the Central Government's callous and apathetic attitude, famine is knocking at the door of the country. Can we deny its Mr. Jadeja is telling just now that if not today, tomorrow there will be a riot for mere drinking water! You may very well imagine such a situation.

Sir, in the drought-prone areas, sub-soil water level has gone down. It has never happened in the last one hundred years. The South West monsoon which accounts for 80 per cent of the total rainfall is going to retreat without giving any rain. The water level of the reservoir, particularly in the South, has gone down to less than 50 per cent. The Khariff crop is more or less lost and you will agree with me, Mr. Minister that the prospects of the Rabi crop are also bleak. According to the observations of the Meteorological Observatory, out of 442 districts in India, 300 districts have been affected by rainfall-deficiency. The rest of the districts are badly affected by heavy rainfall which resulted in devastating floods. Due to these floods, there were huge losses of crop, property, loss and even lives. Again if there is going to be a failure of winter rains also, there is going to be panic-hoarding and profit-making hoarding of foodgrains. The entire country may well be turned into one big Kalahandi.

The Prime Minister may visit the country here and there and say some dry words and shed some crocodile tears. But can that really be any consolation for the suffering people?

I really wonder whether the Government is at all serious to tackle the problems of flood and drought. I say that the Central Government is not at all serious. Rather, they would like to live in great pomp and grandiosity and they are more interested in holding 'Apna Utsavs' and other such festivals. (*Interruptions*)

The Government cannot spend money for drinking water but they can spend crores of rupees on 'Apna Utsav'.

Also, I must say very loudly that the Central Government is politicising this issue of drought and floods. On 16th November 1987, our hon. Prime Minister has gone to Farakka and in a public meeting there, he made allegations against the West Bengal Government. He alleged that the West Bengal Government did not properly utilise the money and that they had misused the money for their party purposes. Sir, I challenge this statement of the Prime Minister. Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I am making it clear now in this House and through you and you have to explain the entire situation to the House. The hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal has condemned the attitude of the Prime Minister and said that all these were 'false allegations'. In this regard, what are the true facts? Let me make the position clear. After the devastating floods in July and August, the West Bengal Government asked for Rs. 300 crores as aid to the flood victims, to provide for relief work, for housing, for drinking water, for agricultural implements, seeds and manure and to stop soil erosion and so on.

The Central Team after studying the flood affected areas of West Bengal made recommendations for Rs. 67 crores and 72 lakhs. Out of that, how much money you have given so far to the West Bengal Government? It is only Rs. 24 crores. How can the Prime Minister say that we have given Rs. 70 crores to West Bengal Government and they have misused the money? Regarding this, we have already got the papers/accounts as to how we have spent. How can you say all these things? If the Chief Minister says that the Prime Minister did not tell the truth, what is wrong in it. We have got plenty

of lands in the country but still we are the land of poverty. I would say, it is mainly due to your action; due to your activities—the Congress Government's activities—we are in this situation. In these long forty years of independence, we have made so many proposals but have you gone through any of these proposals? Have you ever thought over it? Did you think about the wastage of rain water—the waters of Himalayan rivers which are going merrily to the sea?

SHRI A. CHARLES : What is your Government doing?

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : After all, the projects cannot be straightaway taken up by the State Government by merely going through it. Have you ever thought over rains of the river water? How much water is going to be utilized? Have you ever thought over the Ganga-Krishna-Cauveri river canal project which many Members have mentioned? Have you ever thought over the fate of Ganga-Brahmaputra Link Projects via North-Bengal and Assam? It was prepared in fifties. They will say, no. It cannot be taken up due to paucity of funds. We are astonished with the behaviour or the attitude of the Central Government towards the flood control and irrigation projects.

One project which I want to mention here is about the Teesta, which is meant for irrigation and protection from the floods. It was stated long back in the Man Singh Committee's Report that if the Teesta River flood protection and irrigation scheme is completed, 39,000 hectares of land will be irrigated. Six hundred Megawatt of hydel power will be available for Sikkim, North Bengal and North Bihar would be in a safe position from flood disaster. With so much financial constraints, the West Bengal Government had come forward to complete this project on time. They have already spent Rs. 210 crores for this project. Through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister Mr. Dhillon as to how much money they have spent for this project? The North Bengal is a backward area. This is the only river which is helping the people of that area. Out of this Rs. 210 crores, you have

spent only Rs. 5 crores. This is the attitude of the Central Government. Now, I think, it would not be possible. If it is possible, then I would be very grateful to our countrymen.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Are you making a political speech? I do not know what are you saying.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : These are the problems. Now, I would like to say one more thing and that is regarding Ganga-Cauveri project. Do you think that river Ganga is the paternal property of the U.P. Government? No. But what is the position? In the Ganga river, the total flow of water during the lean months is about two lakh and fifty five thousand cusecs. The Calcutta people require only 40,000 cusecs of water.

DR. G.S. DHILLON : I Just wanted to know, Mr. Pradhan, whether you want to bring Kaveri to Ganga, or Ganga to Kaveri.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Ganga to Kaveri; so many Members have spoken already on this project.

The Ganga river's flow during lean months is about 255,000 cusecs of water. Calcutta wants water from the Ganges only to the extent of 40,000 cusecs. But you are giving only 16,000 cusecs. Why? Out of these 255,000 cusecs of water, why are you not giving to the people of Calcutta and West Bengal water to the extent they want, viz. 40,000 cusecs? You are giving Ganga water only during monsoons, because of the flood-threat, and not for any other reasons. (*Interruptions*)

You are making it the paternal property of one State. Between the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal there should be coordination. Let there be a Commission. Let them decide it. That is the way to divide waters between the three States.

Thank you.

DR. A.K. PATEL (Mehsana) : Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this

opportunity to participate in the discussions on this important problem of the day.

Actually, this is not purely a question of natural calamities. My predecessor Mr. Nawal Kishore blamed the bureaucrats for this position. There is some limitation on him: he could not blame the ruling party and the one family which is ruling this country. If we had thought seriously about this problem earlier, the position would not have become so grave as it is today.

In our country, only 22% of the rain water is being utilized, whereas in Israel 95% of their rain water is utilized. We may not agree with them politically; but we should not feel shy or feel offended in taking their advice in respect of the technology needed for utilizing more of rain water.

I will not go much into details. My statement is not political, but a scientific one. This year's drought is the most severe one in this century. That everybody knows. I will speak particularly about my State, viz. Gujarat which is facing drought for the last four years. My predecessor Mr. Jadeja gave a vivid and correct picture of the position in Gujarat. The position in the 19 districts of Gujarat is worse. There is no drinking water for human beings and animals. In the coming days, as he predicted, there will be riots. I totally agree with him. If Government is not serious today, the coming days will be more worse for Gujarat. Government should take serious measures to meet this situation. They should take short-term and long-term measures. As a long term measures, as I said, the Ganga-Kaveri link is the correct or rather the only solution for the country. For my State, the Narmada Yojana is pending for the last so many years. It has been made totally a political issue. Even today, the Central and State Governments are not serious about it. If they had thought of this plan seriously, Gujarat's position would not be as worse as it is today. The surface water there in Gujarat has been exhausted totally, and the sub-strata water which was formerly 100 to 200 ft. deep, has gone down to 600 ft. Even that water

is not potable. It is not economical for irrigation purposes either.

There should be a check in the river so that it percolates and the surface water can come up.

The position of Kutch Bhuj is worse as also my District Mehsana. For Kutch Bhuj, an immediate solution can be found out by getting water from Sindh. This can be done only if we have negotiations with Pakistan on humanitarian grounds. If water does not come from the nearby area, then the position of the 15 per cent animals of the Kutch will become worse. 75 per cent animals have gone out of the State, and several animals are dead.

About implementation of the various schemes of Gujarat, I would like to comment. Very recently, the Collector of Junagarh told about the recent relief measures. There is a lot of mismanagement about the relief measures which are going on there. The names of about 20 per cent persons were found wrong. Those persons who were not working there were paid for that. In that way, it was badly affected. In one cattle camp which is organised by GPC, on record 82,000 animals are there, but while calculating only 35,000 animals are found. This is how the money is being misused when allotted for animals; and that is being done by the leading people of Gujarat. Especially in my District, Mehsana there is the no irrigation scheme. Kadana is an old project which is kept aside. If that project is implemented, then only my State can have water. Narmada Project should be given the top priority. Government is just struggling for money, but the people of Gujarat are prepared to buy debentures and help the government, if it is implemented earlier. For that, if the government demands money from the farmers, the farmers are prepared to give advance even though their economic position is not good. This is the fourth year of drought in Gujarat. The position of farmers is worse; they are not able to repay the loan of cooperative societies and banks. For that, government should think seriously. Last year, the money which was allotted was not adequate; and that money was also not totally utilised; Rs. 20,000 crores were

lying idle. For this the persons who is responsible is the Chief Minister of the State; he should be held responsible for this; and he is answerable for that.

Ahmedabad city is a big city of Gujarat. The River Sabarmati is totally dried up. Formerly, Ahmedabad was getting water from a reservoir because of drought and because of scanty rain. That reservoir is not sufficient for Ahmedabad and the coming days for Ahmedabad are worse; and for that the nearest canal is at Nadiad, which is 50 kms away from that place. If these measures are not taken in time then the position for Ahmedabad people will become worse.

I request through you to the Central Government to allot more money to my State to enable them to implement the scheme of Narmada so that the position for getting water for my State may be good.

[Translation]

*SHRI R. JLLVARATHINAM (Arakkonam). Hon. Dy. Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my views on the drought situation in India being discussed under rule 193.

Every session, we discuss this matter. This has almost become a ritual. We discuss it very frequently but nothing comes out. Details of action taken in pursuance of these discussions are also not made available.

Severe drought conditions are prevailing in Tamil Nadu. The Hon. Prime Minister has extensively toured Tamil Nadu. He had seen with his own eyes the plight of the people. As luck would have it, immediately after his visit, Tamil Nadu experienced spreadic rainfall. This, however, has brought no relief. The south-west monsoons have failed this year. It at all rains come it should have come by this time.

Failure of rains has caused acute drinking water shortage. I had learnt from

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

news papers that the Tamil Nadu Government has sent a detailed report on the drought situation after consulting the respective district commissioners in Tamil Nadu. The Tamil Nadu Government is reported to have asked for Rs. 500 crores as assistance from the Central Government. I had also learnt from newspapers that the Central Government had so far provided some Rs. 50 crores in two or three instalments in response thereto. The State Government has asked for Rs. 500 crores and Central Government has only provided Rs. 50 crores. Our people in the Tamil Nadu Government are a bit hesitant, hesitant even in asking for drought relief assistance. Perhaps, they were traditionally prosperous. Only when there was no other go, they have asked the Central Government for this assistance. But even the Central Government, while playing their part, do not seem to have provided at least any meaningful proportion of what had been asked for.

After the prorogation of last session, I undertook an extensive tour of my constituency. Collectors accompanied me. My purpose was to oversee the drought relief measures being undertaken in my constituency. Do you know how much these authorities has spent on these relief measures? Rs. 5000, Rs. 10000, Rs. 20000. While the relief works require a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs, 10 lakhs and 20 lakhs, these authorities have spent only this petty sums. Will this really provide relief? I told the authorities that they need not have spent Rs. 5000, Rs. 10000 and Rs. 20000 on works which require a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs, Rs. 10 lakhs and Rs. 20 lakhs. Investment below the cost will not bring out any desired result. Then why spend at all? They were helpless. They stated that the State Government had earmarked certain amounts for every village, taluk and district and no penny over and above this ceiling could be spent. I doubt whether this is going to provide any relief to the drought affected people.

Even during the last session, I made a reference to the urgent need of desilting the Kaveripakkam lake in my Arakkonam constituency. The lake which has a capacity of irrigating 10000 acres of land is dry for the past 3 years. I had invited the Hon. Agriculture Minister Shri Dhillon to visit

the lake and see the situation for himself. He graciously agreed to visit the lake provided the State Government formally invites him. I had conveyed this to the State Government. I told the State Government that unless the lake is desilted by the centre or by the State Government purely from their respective funds or by the Cooperative efforts of the Centre and the State Government, the drinking water problem in my constituency could not be solved. Still I am not aware whether the State Government have included this demand for desilting the Kaveripakkam lake in their report submitted to the Central Government.

Not only this lake, there are many other big lakes which require desilting. Mamandur lake which is situated between two hills is big lake. Likewise, Perunkuttur and Veeranam lakes are also big lakes.

(Interruptions)

Sir, kindly forgive me. Give me 5 more minutes. I had been waiting for the past 3 years.

There are certain big lakes which are dry today but which can irrigate 10000 to 15000 acres of land.

Even the Dharmapuri district wherefrom the Hon. Dy. Speaker haild is a more backward area than my constituency. Dharmapuri has also been affected severely by drought. There is no rainfall in South Arcot district. There is no drinking water in Madras. We Tamilians are suffering a lot due to drought.

I hope the Hon. Agriculture Minister will, with compassion, listen to me and do the needful.

Even the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has also constituted a Drought Relief Monitoring Committee. I hope that Committee will also take expeditious steps in dispensing justice to a large number of persons affected by drought in my Constituency. Many acres of cultivable lands in my constituency have gone dry.

While I was on tour to my constituency, in a particular village, I had to meet more

than 1000 women who come in a procession with pots on their heads who begged water from us. They pathetically demanded that they wanted only water and nothing else. That particular village comes under Solingapuram assembly constituency. Water is not available in the village even at a depth of 200 ft.

Last time, when I spoke on the same matter, I urged upon the Government to employ army for digging bore wells at 300 ft. and 400 ft. level, and to provide drinking water to the parched throats on immediate basis. I spoke in Parliament. My speech was published in newspapers. But nothing concrete has come out of those discussions. That is why I had been waiting here to convey to this august House my anguish at the tardy implementation of the drought relief measures.

Drought conditions are prevailing in Tamil Nadu all through the year and year after year. We are spending the huge amounts ranging from 80 to 90 lakhs on many other projects. We must permanently allocate a fund for drought relief and for flood relief operations. This is also my appeal to the Hon. Prime Minister.

Sir, I can now with certainty say that there will not be any rain during the coming 8 months. If at all it comes, it should have come by this time. Even drinking water will not be available. In such a difficult situation, the opposition will try to fish in troubled waters.

You cannot bring water from Ganga. It is not just possible for the present. It is also not possible right now to convert sea water into drinking water. The Government must therefore augment water supply in the existing water resources in all 4 districts viz. Dharmapuri, North Arcot, Madras and South Arcot which have been very severally affected by drought. Hon. Minister may kindly take note of this fact. He must liaise with the State Government in taking immediate steps in this regard.

18.00 hrs.

The KR Sagar area of Karnataka receives heavy rainfall for 4 to 6 months and they store the rain waters in the KR

Sagar dam. If they release water from the dam during the rainy season at least for the one month, then this would augment water supply in Cauveri river. This would in turn fill small tanks and ponds and we Tamilians are going to benefit by this.

Next is about the river Palar. This river also originates from Mysore. They have built the Beththamangalam lake at the source of the river. If they release water from the Beththamangalam lake at last for one month during the rainy season, it would greatly help the people of Tamil Nadu. Hon. Minister may kindly take note of this. Hon. Minister may also be aware that North Arcot district comes next to Tanjore district in rice production in Tamil Nadu. But the whole district is laid barren by drought. We have sowed maize, millet and Ragi. At least these crops should be saved. Hon. Minister may please take necessary steps.

Lastly, Sir, I would like to make an appeal. It is about the Telugu Ganga Project. The waters of Krishna should somehow come to Tamil Nadu. Hon. Chief Minister of Andhra, Shri NTR was a resident of Madras. He spent much of his film career in Madras. He earned a lot of wealth in Madras only. He is also large-hearted. He himself declared that even if the Central Government does not give clearance to the project, he would execute the project, the project by all means. He must fulfil his vow even spending from his pocket. The Krishna water must flow through Cuddapah, Karnool, Madana palli, Palamaneri, Gudiyattam, Vaniambadi and then may be let into Palar river. If this is done, NTR would go down in history as the most renowned personality.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is now 6.50 p.m.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SARIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): I would like to propose that we extend the sitting of the House by half-an-hour so that all the speakers can speak.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Tomorrow.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : I would like to tell the hon. Members that two hours were allotted for this debate and we have already taken over 5 hours. The Speaker in BAC had said that unless we restrict five to ten minutes per speaker, we will not be able to finish the business. Tomorrow the hon. Minister will give the reply.

SARI UTTAM RATHOD : Is it not a fact that this is the severest drought ? So more time should be given for discussing this drought.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : In the last session we had a discussions on this subject for almost 12 hours. But it is upto the House to take any decision.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : To tell at 6 o'clock that the House should be extended by half-an-hour is not fair. We are not prepare for that.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : I have gone on the assumption that we will be able to finish the debate today itself. I could not visualise at 4.30 that this would be the situation. Anyhow, it is upto the House to decide. If you donot want to sit today, then tomorrow you will have to forego the lunch hour.

DR. G.S. DHILLON : I have a problem. There was a marathon debate in Rajya Sabha on this subject for 4 days and then it was started here and now you are extending it for tomorrow. I had to cancel three programmes. I thought I would be free at the earliest. Now you are asking to extend it tomorrow also. I hope, this will be the final extension. If you are made to listen for hours together, then you will realise my position. Kindly finish it tomorrow itself.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : But you had the experience of listening as you were the Speaker.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : You will have to skip over Lunch Hour tomorrow.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : The difficulty is that the Deputy Speaker is also not ready.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am ready to sit even up to ten O'clock. No problem...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If the House of wants, I am ready to sit even up to mid night.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Then Sir, we do agree that the hon. Minister will reply to the debate at two p.m. tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right. But before that everything has to be over. Then no demand should be made afterwards that this is a very serious matter and you want to discuss it further. Whatever is decided now, we have to stick to that tomorrow.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : By 12.30 p.m. we shall finish off matters under rule 377, depending on the Zero Hour. By 12.30 p.m, we shall start the debate again, Sir. It will be the first item on the agenda tomorrow after the Question Hour and after matters under rule 377.

18.10 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Forty-fifth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SARIMHTI SHEILA DIKSHIT): Sir, I beg to present the Forty-fifth Report of Business Advisory Committee.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House now stands adjourned to reassemble tomorrow at 11 A.M.

18.11 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, December 2, 1987/Agrahayana 11, 1909 (Saka).